FBIS DAILY REPORT

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LA NACION VIEWS U.S. NUCLEAR PRESSURE ON INDIA

FY171443Y Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 15 Jan 78 p 8 FY

[Editorial: "Carter's Visit and the Nuclear Issue"]

[Text] The U.S. President's visit to seven countries presented the opportunity to discuss, although superficially, issues of world importance as well as strictly bilateral affairs. It is no secret that Carter's principal interest in India was in New Delhi's stand on foreign policy and nuclear matters. The latter was probably more important since, now that Madame Gandhi's political scenario no longer exists, it is not very probable that India will become a kind of Moscow satellite.

India's participation in the nuclear field is not one which ends at the territorial boundary. To be more precise, it would be good to recall that the explosion of an atomic bomb in that country--in violation of nuclear agreements--meant an unjustified complication between Canada and ourselves. In addition to being unjustified it was unjust, since there was no possible connection between that explosion and the agreement signed by Argentina and India that very day.

In keeping with the U.S. President's trip and his interview with Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai, we would say that he showed the world and India the United States' inflexible stand with respect to interpretation of the nuclear nonproliferation treaty. The latter, and Carter's failure to convince Desai to follow the path charted by Washington, are indications of why--because of U.S. and Soviet policies--the NPT has not achieved its true purpose of having other countries approve and stand by the preservation of the status quo vis-a-vis horizontal and vertical proliferation.

It was not effective--in fact, it was disadvantageous--for the U.S. President to mention the possibility of passing a law which would prohibit or restrict the transfer of technology to countries which do not submit to inspection of their nuclear installations.

The indiscreet phrase caught by the microphones about sending a "cold and very blunt" note reaffirms what Indian journalists consider a colonial mentality. Not only is it unacceptable that this was said, without realizing that it was being heard, but it gave a chance to supporters of Madame Gandhi to start an antigovernment and anti-U.S. campaign.

It would undoubtedly have been better not to try to flatter Desai by designating him "leader of the Third World." Instead, it would have been much more constructive to be careful with reactions motivated by Desai's refusal to accept the visitor's proposals.

VIDELA, PINOCHET TO CONFER THURSDAY WITHOUT AIDES

FY180017Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2356 GMT 17 Jan 78 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jan--Diplomatic sources announced here tonight that the presidents of Argentina and Chile, Generals Videla and Pinochet respectively, will meet on Thursday.

The two generals will analyze the Beagle Channel disagreement and the southern border limits with an "open agenda" during a meeting, in which they will be alone, to be held on Thursday morning in a room which has been specially prepared in the officers mess of the air force's 4th Airborne Brigade [in Mendoza]

This meeting is a result of the overture which the Chilean president sent to his Argentine colleague through Gen Manuel Contreras Sepulvedas, who arrived in the Argentine capital on Thursday for this purpose.

The sources ratified that Argentina will reject the arbitration decision "because it is null and void" on 25 January no matter what the results of the summit meeting, the sources warned. Depending upon the outcome of the presidential meeting, the possibility of another meeting, to be held either on Argentine territory or in Chile, must not be discarded, it was reported.

The two chiefs of state will wear their generals uniforms for this meeting, which has not been termed as official and in which neither of the two foreign ministers will take part at any time.

The official announcement of the meeting will be made jointly in the capitals of the two border nations at noon on 18 January. According to observers, General Videla's acceptance of Gen al Pinochet's invitation responds to the decision of the Buenos Aires government of exhausting all possibilities in seeking a solution at a bilateral level.

HUMAN RIGHTS ASSEMBLY PUBLISHES DECLARATION

PY170137Y [Editorial Report FY] The Buenos Aires HERALD in English on 16 January on page 5 published, in a full page open letter format, a nine-point declaration by the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, dated 30 November, entitled: "Concerning Peace and Life." Points one through seven summarized that it was established on 18 December 1975, by a group of citizens with different sociopolitical, philosophical and religious beliefs, followed by a brief outline of why it was established and of its ideals and objectives.

The declaration then gives a broad outline of why it rejects indiscriminate terrorism, citing the frustration and anguish of the relatives of the people who have been kidnaped and of the organizations which are fighting for human rights. It continues with an explanation of why it is only the state that should have the power of maintaining peace, justice, freedom and order--which it supports--or of reestablishing it if necessary. The declaration indicates that the civilian society must not be taken in by a certain publicized references to another world war which has already begun, contending that Argentina is one of its theaters of operations, because the Permanent Assembly believes that if this were to be believed the state of siege, the ever-increasing serious restrictions of individual and social rights and the systematic persecution of all internal dissidence would continue indefinitely. If this were the case, the basic objectives of the process for national reorganization would be frustrated.

Point VIII of the declaration cites a paragraph of the last armed forces weekly editorial and says: "In view of these facts, the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights, in taking up the presidential call for a Christmas in peace (which has opened up so much hope), again urges the public and the national government to construct jointly the ethical and legal bases of peace in an action which will bring all the country's creative forces together in order that:

"A. The supreme value of life should prevail and that, without any exception, the basic and procedural rules which ensure it be respected;

"B. No sector assumes for itself the right or the mission of imposing on the Argentine people political structures or objectives which are foreign to its democratic tradition and to its sovereign will;

"C. No peaceful expression of ideas related to the country's organization and development be pursued as an aggression against the nation itself;

"D. Each social sector equally share the necessary efforts for an increase of the common good and that each sector also equally shares in the results of these efforts;

"E. An autonomous judicial branch be strengthened as the only competent branch for punishing those who have committed crimes and as the spine of an effective system for the protection of the basic rights of the country's inhabitants; and

"F. Everyone accepts the monopoly of force by the state in accordance with the republic's laws."

Point IX states: "The consultations with entities and high-ranking persons during the course of the seminars held during the second session of the Council of the Presidency having concluded with the formulation of the above-mentioned principles, the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights:

"1. Urges every sector of the national community to remove, within their capabilities, the existing obstacles in order to build the peace conceived by everyone;

"2. Requests the political powers of the national government, carrying out the investigation demanded by the Supreme Court in its important decision of 18 April, 1977, concerning the situation of people who have disappeared, to take every measure within its reach in order to arrive at the solution of this problem and that the court's decision become the basis of a peace based on the respect for life."

The declaration then expresses hope that the Argentine people will have the certainty that this will happen in the new year which is about to begin, and indicates that it was handed in to the presidency on 7 December, 1977, attached to a file of 228 new cases of disappearances which, added to the cases submitted previously, now total 1,000. The declaration concludes with a list of 96 names of people who have signed the document.

NEWSPAPER, PLAY SQUELCHED BY DECREES

PY1620038Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1450 GMT 16 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jan--Through two decrees disclosed today, the Executive Branch has outlawed the distribution, sale, and circulation throughout the entire country of a newspaper and it has outlawed the sale and representation of a play. Decree No. 38 enforces this measure against the newspaper ELEMENTOS, printed by Alemann and Co and it orders the confiscation of its issues. In addition, Decree No. 39 enforces the same measure against the play Maria Lamuerte by Roma Mahieu.

The clauses of Decree No. 38 note that the editorial line of the newspaper ELEMENTOS shows clear dissociative Marxist postulates aimed at provoking lines of conduct which threaten national peace and tranquillity.

Moreover, the clauses of Decree No. 38 note that an analysis made of the play Maria Lamuerte by Roma Mahieu reveals that there is a passage which undermines morals and is an insult to the family, the human being and his society.

MEETING OF HEMISPHERIC AMBASSADORS BEGINS

PY1619Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1812 GMT 16 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 16 Jan--The meeting of Argentine ambassadors accredited to Latin American countries which was convoked by Foreign Minister Oscar Antonio Montes started today shortly after 1500.

The meeting is being held at the Foreign Ministry's Golden Room, and among those attending it are Jorge Aja Espil, ambassador to the U.S.; Enrique Ros, ambassador to the United Nations; Oscar Camilion, ambassador to Brazil; and Federico Bartel, ambassador to Venezuela.

REGIME HIRING ASSASSINS, MONTONEROS CHARGE

PY112235Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1810 GMT 11 Jan 78 PY

[Excerpts] Stockholm, 11 Jan--The Argentine military regime has contracted professional German killers to murder the members of the Montoneros movement who are refugees living in Rome and Paris, Juan Gelman, press chief of that movement, told the Swedish News Agency.

Gelman showed the Swedish News Agency a document in which the military junta asks Argentine ambassadors to keep contact with the news media and make them believe that the Montoneros movement is going to unleash guerrilla operations in Europe.

The Montoneros press chief also again denied any connection with the organizations which kidnaped two French nuns in Buenos Aires at the beginning of December.

CONTRACT FOR GERMAN FUEL ELEMENTS APPROVED

PY171725Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1530 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jan--Executive Branch Decree No. 4,218/77 approves a contract signed between the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA] and the firm Kraftwerkunion Aktiengesellschaft of Muehlheim, FRG, for the supply of 715 fuel elements, with an option for 195 more, to be used in the Atucha nuclear plant.

The same decree authorizes the CNEA president to sign, in accordance with the provisions of the contract, all complementary documents related to the sale. It also authorizes the Economy Ministry to guarantee the contract, with the support of the National Treasury, for the banking institution involved. The CNEA will include in its annual budgets the payments required by the agreement. These will be paid using funds from the exploitation of the nuclear plant.

The preamble of the decree explains that the CNEA (?has not) planned so far to replace foreign-originated parts with local parts in manufacturing fuel elements, because it is not yet technically possible to disregard the process adopted under prior provisions. The decree states that decrees No. 3,776/69, 5,183/72, 4,911/73, 293/74, 2,459/75 and 1,543/77 had authorized earlier contracts for provision of the fuel elements needed for operation of the nuclear plant.

It concludes by stating that since the special characteristics of the Atucha-type fuel elements are not available from any other manufacturer on the international market, the contract must abide by Article 56, paragraph 3 G of the accountability law.

COLOR TELEVISION TRANSMISSIONS INAUGURATED

PY141627Y Buenos Aires HERALD in English 14 Jan 78 p 9 PY

[Excerpt] Colour television will be officially inaugurated in Argentina today when "Emisora Argentina 78 Televisora SA" transmits abroad the results of the world football championship draw. It will be followed by the transmission of tomorrow's Argentine motor racing Grand Prix.

Colonel Eduardo Barbieri, president of the television company, said yesterday at a press conference that this will serve to show the world how Argentines live and work and to assure it that "we live in peace and tranquillity."

Although people in Argentina will not be able to watch colour TV on their own sets, Barbieri said his company had signed contracts with two local firms for closed circuit television in several halls in the federal capital.

These are believed to include the Grand Rex, Opera and Luxur cinemas, as well as the Luna Park Stadium.

Argentina's colour television is the German PAL system, which is similar to the black and white system in use in this country.

BRIEFS

HUNGER STRIKE--Buenos Aires, 13 Jan--It was reported here today that Peronist leader Norma Kennedy, who was a member of former President Maria Estela Martinez de Peron's team, has been on a hunger strike since 22 December, 1977, and that she is very weak. Her lawyer charges that the Interior Ministry has not given the reasons for her arrest on 1 June, 1976, and that being deprived of her freedom for such a long time is not justified. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2012 GMT 13 Jan 78 PY]

GOVERNMENT RATIONALIZATION PLAN--It was officially reported that 9,000 railroad workers will be laid off during 1978 under the administrative rationalization plan which was ordered by the Argentine Military Government. Col Urbano de la Vega, manager for the industrial sector of the state railroad enterprise, stated today that there will be no "massive dismissals." Since March, 1976, 34,000 railroad workers have been discharged. The definitive figure of dismissals which is considered necessary for the normal operation of railroads is 45,000. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2146 GMT 16 Jan 78 PY]

REPORTS, REACTIONS TO CONTINUING HUNGER STRIKES

FSB: Banzer Should Resign

PY180232Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Excerpts] Former President Luis Adolfo Siles Salinas held an impromptu press conference today. He said democracy cannot be played with. It is being talked about while brutal actions are being carried against the dignity of the men and women demanding their legitimate rights.

High-ranking government officials today met with religious delegates from the United States who arrived during the last few hours to observe the development of events. The U.S. delegation includes the Reverend (Wilson Bowes), president of the National Council of the Church of Christ; (Mary Brisbaden), deputy director of the Washington office for Latin America; and (Allen Muscovich), president of the United States (?Superiors) Confederation.

Official sources reported at midday that the government had decided to suspend academic activities in La Paz and Sucre in view of student disturbances.

The Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSB] publicly demanded the resignation of the republic's president, General Hugo Banzer, after the government began this morning to remove groups of hunger strikers.

One of the leaders of the FSB publicly demanded the resignation of President Banzer, and asked for his replacement by a triumvirate made up of the commanders of the three armed forces. The Falange leader, Jaime Ponce Caballero, said the invasion of heavily armed police and civilian agents in all but three of the locations where hunger strikers took reguge in La Paz, is a neofascist action. We are not in a dictatorship which will impede the normal development of the democratization process in the country, according to Ponce Caballero. He said Banzer should resign his post as commander in chief of the armed forces.

The country's former president, Luis Siles Salinas, who has been on a hunger strike since last Saturday, said during a press conference that the dialog begun by the government's representatives to arrive at a solution to the strike was unfruitful after the drastic measures taken this morning. The measures taken by the government early today resulted in a wave of protests from student, professional, peasant, labor and press circles.

In spite of the persuasive measures taken by the labor minister, workers from La Paz's largest industries suspended all activities today, Tuesday, in a solidarity move with the hunger strikers. National press and radio stations agreed to suspend all activities on Thursday to protest the invasion of the PRESENCIA newspaper building and the La Paz press workers' building by the government's security organizations. After a long meeting, the Press-Radio Agreement ordered the suspension of all activity on Thursday, 19 January, on a national scale. A joint document issued by both union entities condemns the government's attitude. It points out that similar tactics will not be permitted in the future. We repeat, on Thursday of this week, there will be no newspapers or radio broadcasts. The measure calling for the work stoppage for 24 hours was ordered by the Press-Radio Agreement to protest the invasion of the PRESENCIA newspaper and the La Paz press union headquarters by government security organizations.

Many relatives of the persons who were on the hunger strikes and who were removed by police and Interior Ministry agents have come to Radio Cruz del Sur to let us know that the authorities are denying them information concerning the whereabouts of the strikers arrested today.

News reports from Paris tell us that the Committee for Solidarity with the Struggle of the Bolivian People has begun a 48-hour hunger strike. The Solidarity Committee added: General Banzer's government tries to defend a democratic image with the announcement of elections for this year and an amnesty, but we should not fool ourselves because the latter was only partial. The committee emphasized the fact that the amnesty did not favor many Bolivian miners exiled after the long 1976 strike. The army continues to occupy the mines while union leaders are forbidden to act.

FSB on Different Strikes

PY172316Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[From the "Facetas" program]

[Text] We have a political interpretation of the events in La Paz on 16 January. A high Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSB] leader has talked with newsmen, not only from "Facetas" but also from other news media, and he called the strike unpopular and injudicious. This opinion was given by Jaime Ponce Caballero, a high FSB leader who went all over the city, stopping in front of Government Palace for a talk with newsmen. This is his dialog with "Facetas" and other newsmen:

[Ponce--begin recording] The strike ordered by the labor coordinators, a strike decreed by the government, is a kind of lockout by the government. I think this [word indistinct] is highly dangerous for the country. It signifies control by the political leadership, which will find itself compelled to use coordinators and other people to obtain a backing which probably does not represent popular will.

[Question] What effects will this strike have on the country?

[Answer] In fact, the economic effects are harmful. The compulsory rallies which were held in support of candidates [words indistinct] were harmful to the general economy. Today I have been talking with many people in various parts of the city and I could observe a total feeling of dissatisfaction over this compulsory strike imposed on the citizens, which reminded them of old times when attempts were made to intimidate the population. Specifically, they are demanding personal rights and they support the demands to obtain a general amnesty, and the measures of passive resistance which have been taken by many citizens are proof that there is no desire to have recourse to physical violence, but instead to peaceful or passive violence, which is the last resource of the people in defense of their freedom and rights.

[Question] Which is your opinion about the hunger strike?

[Answer] I believe that we are getting close to a crime on the part of government officials, unless they can find a solution through dialog and not simply use physical coercion and violence, which will be condemned by all Bolivians. All members of my party and myself are actively opposed to all violent measures which the government is aiming against the whole Bolivian people.

[Question] Including the breaking into churches?

[Answer] This event is in fact still more surprising than the situation we remember when armed and indoctrinated militias, indoctrinated peasants who did not obey the will of their own sector, committed acts of vandalism of this kind. The occupation of church premises by government forces must be condemned. I believe that this has occurred only in the most violent dictatorships in the whole world.

[Question] [question indistinct]

[Answer] Well, I cannot speak officially on behalf of the FSB, because I am not its secretary general, but as a member of this party, and I am sure many of my comrades think the same. I strongly object to the measures taken by the government.

[Question] As a politician of long standing, do you believe that the government's decision to support a strike ordered by the labor coordinators will undermine the image of the official candidate?

[Answer] I do not believe that the position of the government and the presidential successor has been totally undermined; it is the system as a whole that has been weakened. What I am worried about, however, is that this weakening may cause in turn the weakening of the armed forces. I believe that the armed forces should not be affected by the weakening of the government . [end recording]

Churches Raided, Priests Arrested

PY180250Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0227 GMT 18 Jan 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 17 Jan--It was reported here today that the second Catholic church in 4 days was raided by the Bolivian security police. It was also reported that 13 persons, including three nuns, who were carrying out a hunger strike inside the Cristo Rey Parish House were detained by the police. Four Catholic priests and four nuns have been detained during the last few hours in La Paz.

A reliable church source indicated tonight to AFP that Msgr Jorge Manrique, archbishop of La Paz, will release an energetic communique within the next few hours demanding that the military government seek a solution to the conflict unleashed by 1,300 persons who are carrying out a hunger strike throughout the country.

The first group of strikers began to go without food 20 days ago in the archbishopric offices in La Paz. The raid against the Cristo Rey Church was carried out this afternoon.

Four days ago 60 officers of the political police invaded the San Jose Obrero Church in the city of Santa Cruz, 1,000 kilometers east of La Paz, and detained 16 strikers, including eight women.

Churches Closed, Excommunication Threatened

PY180336Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Jan 78 PY

[From the "Facetas" program: communique issued by La Paz archbishop]

[Text] We are truly sorry that the talks which were about to result in an agreement which would end the hunger strikes were interrupted by the violent measures which we have witnessed.

On this occasion we again reject and forcefully condemn leftwing and rightwing extremism. In addition to invading our establishments, there have been violations of Christ the King Church and buildings which have traditionally been places of asylum, and arbitrary, forceful arrests of religious persons and priests. These deeds seriously violate the verbal agreement and the official word of the government, recently ratified by the interior minister.

[Words indistinct] is to violate the church's living (?sanctuaries)--the poeple. [passage indistinct] There was violence committed in forcefully taking them [the strikers] to various prison clinics despite their physical weakness.

In view of actions of this magnitude, the church reserves the right to resort to excommunication, if necessary, against both the perpetrators and instigators of these deeds. If a satisfactory agreement is not reached tomorrow the ban [entredicho] will be prolonged throughout the La Paz archdiochese on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

This decree involves the suspension of all worship and sacraments with the exception of the [word indistinct] aid. Churches will remain closed during all this time. If this should happen we ask ourpeople to intensify their penitance and prayer during these 3 days. La Paz, 17 January, 1978. Signed, Bishop Jorge Manrique, La Paz archbishop, Bernando Fey.

Human Rights Leaders Arrested

PY181437Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0228 GMT 18 Jan 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 17 Jan--The executive board of the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights reported here tonight that several of its leaders were detained during the last few hours by the security police. The executive board indicated in an official communique that "we shall denounce these attacks to the United Nations and other organizations which have shown their support for the strike movement, which is being fully maintained."

Minister Rejects State of Siege

PY171809Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Text] The planning and coordination minister stated yesterday that it was wholly out of the question for a state of siege to be proclaimed in the country. That possibility has been ruled out.

Student Demonstrator Slain

PY180224Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Jan 78 PY

[From the Facetas program]

[Text] We have just received an advance report from the headquarters of the Bolivian Police. According to this report, (Raul Mendoza), 17, has died as a result of a gunshot fired from a handgun. His brother, (Jorge Mendoza) was also shot in his right thigh. The report indicates that the shots were fired from a white pickup. The police indicated that they are still looking for the vehicle. Thus, we are unable to report anything about the owner of the car.

At this point, the chief of the Bolivian Police, Col Lino Perez, is in Government House and appears to be discussing this matter. The event took place at approximately 2100 today in the neighborhood of the (Huston) Bank near Venezuela Square, where a group of persons, mainly students, was gathered. The group was fired at from a white pickup truck. We are awaiting an official communique of the police.

Police Evict Sucre Strikers

PY171745Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Excerpts] Shortly after 0500 this morning police and security personnel entered the law school [of San Francisco Javier University in Sucre] to evict the students who had been on hunger strike in the building since last Wednesday. Thanks to the intervention of a priest the students calmed down and agreed to withdraw from the premises peacefully, naturally guarded by police. personnel. The police intervention was made in accordance with instructions received by the prefect of the department shortly after 0400.

After midnight, representatives for the Chuquisaca civic committee, the church and the press had a meeting at the investigations office, during which the prefect of the department was asked to grant guarantees that there would be no intervention against the university students. This guarantee calmed the students who, last night, confirmed their decision to continue their hunger strike to the last. There are about 300 participants in the strike.

After their eviction the students marched along several streets until they reached the corner of Hernando Siles Avenue and Junin Street, where they remained on hunger strike until noon, when they left for another location.

Afternoon today a commission formed by the Chuquisaca Development Corporation, the church and the press had a new meeting with the prefect. The latter stated that he had received categoric instructions from the interior minister to evict the hunger strikers, and repeated that the order had been carried out in an orderly way and without any abuse. He explained that he had personally offered guarantees to the univeristy students if they suspended the hunger strike. When asked for a statement, the prefect said that the security forces will remain on the alert. He then promised that no harsh measures will be taken, despite the instructions he had received, as long as public order is not disturbed. Everybody agreed that a solution must be awaited from La Paz. In the meantime no harsh measures will be taken in this district.

Until noon today, 15 new hunger strikers had been compelled to give up.

PEREDA ASBUN'S REQUEST FOR LEAVE APPROVED

PY131806Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 13 Jan 78 PY

[Text] The armed forces command has granted indefinite leave to Gen Juan Pereda Asbun, enabling him to become a candidate for the presidency. In reply to a request by General Pereda, Gen Hugo Banzer, in his capacity as commander in chief of the armed forces, asserted that the decision is confirmed in order to continue with the constitutionalization (?to establish) a new democracy (?in accordance with) the true historical characteristics of the nation. The letter also expresses the sympathy of the armed forces for General Pereda Asbun's candidacy for the presidency.

Launches Presidential Campaign

PY141758Y Sucre Radio La Plata in Spanish 1630 GMT 14 Jan 78 PY

[Text] While the hunger strike conflict remains unsolved, Gen Juan Pereda Asbun, the official nationalist candidate, began his election campaign with the goal of winning the presidency.

In a recent statement, peasants from La Paz Department have requested that General Pereda Asbun's candidacy be accompanied with that of a peasant for vice president.

New Air Force Commander

PY171857Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Summary] Today, the new air force commander was sworn in at a ceremony at general staff headquarters. President Hugo Banzer Suarez made an important speech regarding the unity of the armed forces. This is the most important part of President Banzer's speech at the staff headquarters:

[Banzer--begin recording] Gen Juan Pereda Asbun's request for indefinite leave has left the air force command vacant and his place is therefore taken by Gen Jose Antonio Sempertegui, who has held the post as air force chief of staff. "At a time when the armed forces, responsible for the conduct of government, have undertaken the constitutionalization of the country as their main political goal, maintaining their internal unity becomes imperative in order that they be able to play their role with the directness which has been characteristic of their actions." [end recording]

LETTER FROM CITIZEN ANSWERS TOPATER DOCUMENT

PY132033Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 13 Jan 78 PY

[From the "Facetas" program: Text of letter from unidentified citizen Walter Canelo Flores answering Topater Group document; letter was "endorsed" by President Banzer]

[Excerpt] We have carefully read the document calling for unity in the armed forces and the Bolivian people made by the Topater civilian-military group. The concepts contained in this document are interesting, although our opinions differ on some points. We agree that the armed forces should not be considered as a political party. That would be completely alien to their subordinate role in politics. The armed forces have assumed this role in view of the political vacuum left by parties, including extremist ones, which are undergoing serious crises because of personal differences rather than ideological reasons. It would be irresponsible on the part of the armed forces to comfortably carry out their duties without getting involved in the political scene. The institution's very reason for existing would be lost.

The presence of the armed institution in the political scene is, and should be, strictly to suggest, and it is precisely for that reason that the armed forces government wants the country to enter a democratization phase, albeit a relative one. The selection of an official military candidate indicates that it is important to maintain nationalist patterns in the activities dictated by circumstances.

The principal objective of this article is not necessarily to refute the document which concerns us. We respect all its aspects. What does worry us is the point to which personal sentiment will go during moments of political confusion, as directed by alarming interests, in the country. A federal minister called this the subversive system.

The appearance of this group places one sector of the armed forces in a struggle to see who wants to destroy the work of 6 years and, why not say so, the fatherland itself. It is distressing to know that members of this institution, Bolivia's only guardian, would lend themselves to tricks characterized by personal frustrations which endanger the security of each and every Bolivian.

It would seem that only this [word indistinct] of the enemy has motivated the formation of these civilian-military groups which now intend to gather all those who have not fulfilled their personal ambitions, and have [words indistinct] with the intention of gaining sympathy. It is our duty to protect our youths from the omnipresence [ubicuismo- which is the characteristic of the signers and which has now turned into a virtue.

We dare to criticize the appearance of this group which seems only to be a club for resentful people rather than a civilian-military group. Ninety percent of those who signed that document were at one time part of this government, and some of them were involved in the (?restriction) of rights which they now protest. The remaining 10 percent belonged to regimes prior to the present government, and from the posts they held lent themselves to the instrumentation of the armed forces while threateneing it with destruction and using foolish means.

I would like to repeat that it is distressing that officers of our own army who have this type of attitude would again lend themselves to international forces which want to make Bolivia a field of (?tragedy) where only Bolivian blood would flow. In the future let history be the judge of the nation's enemies. Let God enlighten these officials so they may correct their mistakes and preserve the youthful generations of our armed forces from the contamination of disloyalty.

FSB REJECTS COALITIONS FOR 9 JULY ELECTIONS

PY171428Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[From the "Facetas" program]

[Text] Mario Gutierrez, leader of the Bolivian Socialist Falange [FSB], has said that his party will enter the 9 July elections alone, that it has no commitment to the official political front, and that all contact with General Pereda has been broken off. Gutierrez was announcing the FSB's official position and its plans to enter the 9 July elections alone.

2D ARMY COMMANDER DISCUSSES FIGUEIREDO

PY130108Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Jan 78 p 6 PY

[Excerpts] Sao Paulo--After a thanksgiving mass celebrated by request of and attended by all officers serving in Sao Paulo, Gen Dilermando Gomes Monteiro, commander of the 2d Army, resumed his post yesterday, fully recovered from the surgery which he underwent on 7 December.

When reporters asked Dilermando about whether General Figueiredo needs a fourth star to assume the presidency, he smilingly answered:

"That decision is up to the president, that is," he corrected himself, "we all support the president."

Afterward, the 2d Army commander visited Sao Paulo Governor Paulo Egydio Martins at Morumbi Palace. His interview with reporters is as follows:

[Question] General, will Figueiredo receive the fourth star in March?

[Answer] This depends on the high command. The decision is made by casting secret votes. The members of the high command, as usual, do not even discuss who they are going to vote for. The candidates' merits are studied individually, with reference to the list in the army almanac. The minister presides over the meeting and a vote is taken on 10 names. Three names are then taken to the president, who will choose one of them.

[Question] Do you feel that the future president, General Figueiredo, will have problems because the military was not consulted in the process of his selection? Considering the way the presidential succession was handled, do you see a tendency toward institutional order? How should reform be conducted, including for cancellation of mandates, the national security law and elimination of censorship and AI-5?

[Answer] As I have been repeating, I do not talk about politics. This subject concerns the army minister and the president. I only speak about military matters, about my command.

[Question] How do you see General Figueiredo's appointment for the presidency?

[Answer] This problem does not concern me. I am not entitled to speak about that. It concerns the president and the army minister.

[Question] Commander, will General Figueiredo have problems in continuing President Geisel's work?

[Answer] For God's sake, who am I to guess General Figueiredo's thinking? That is his problem. I cannot guess that. As commander of the 2d Army, I can say whether the command of the 2d Army has problems or not, but ruling a country is far beyond my intellectual capacity to comment.

[Question] Speaking not in terms of opinion, but in terms of a word to a friend and a general, what would you say about the future of the country with General Figueiredo?

[Answer] Look, I hope he has an excellent government, and he is fit for that.

ARENA PRESIDENT PRESSES FOR PARTY UNITY

PY171510Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Talking to newsmen last night, ARENA President Francelino Pereira reported that he had talked over the phone with the presidents of regional ARENA boards, recommending party unity for the upcoming electoral campaign. Franceling Pereira confirmed that the rules of the game will not be changed during the nat onal and state conventions.

MAGALHAES PINTO EXPLAINS DECISION TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT

LD170915Y Paris LE MONDE in French 14 Jan 78 p 7 LD

[Louis Wiznitzer interview--date, place not specified, with 1979 Brazilian presidential election candidate Magalhaes Pinto: "We Must Move Away From Dictatorship"]

[Text] [Question] What is your aim in running for president of the republic?

[Answer] To end the state of emergency. I want to help my country get back on its feet, to turn away from dictatorship and to live and work in democracy.

[Question] In 1964, as governor of the state of Minas-Gerais, you were the civilian founding father of the military revolution and supported it without hesitation. You are now advocating a return to democracy; why has your attitude changed?

[Answer] The aim of the armed forces movement in 1964 was to safeguard and strengthen democracy. There was never any question of the army staying in power. I believe that the conditions for a return to democracy are now present and that we must move firmly and boldly in this direction.

[Question] The government is thought to intend moving the axis of its economic policy from Washington to Bonn. If elected, would you follow this policy?

[Answer] I would certainly try to strengthen Brazil's ties with the whole of West Europe, not only with the FRG, because we need to diversify our markets and our sources of investment. However, this does not mean that we would turn our back on our great American ally.

As regards our atomic policy, Brazil's attitude dates from my term as foreign minister under President Costa E. Silva. Our policy is an affirmation of our sovereignty and a guarantee for our development. We must be independent from a technological viewpoint. An increasing number of Brazilian technicians and scientists must be involved in our nuclear activities.

[Question] What is the essential condition for restoring democracy?

[Answer] We must restore the people's right to vote and organize political parties. We must abolish the numerous restrictions which limit and distort suffrage and the electoral truth. The discretionary power which the army assumed was intended to be short lived, but it has been in operation for 14 years now. It no longer reflects the situation in our country and is just coasting along.

[Question] What repercussions has Mr Carter's campaign for civil rights had in Brazil?

[Answer] The repercussions have been enormous. Our people have been overjoyed to see the United States again taking up a tradition which won it universal respect and support from all those fighting for freedom. The armed forces in Brazil have traditionally been confined to the role of guardians of the constitution and law. The army takeover in Brazil is the exception which proves the rule. I am convinced that a majority of Brazilian soldiers want the president of the republic to be a civilian, for the good of the country and in the interests of the efficiency of the armed forces.

[Question] The material progress recorded in Brazil since 1964 has been accompanied by an unprecedented cultural and social stagnation. What is your opinion on the fact that a considerable part of Brazil's intellectual elite is exiled?

[Answer] I think that the social and political cost of our development is much too high. Forty million Brazilians have been born since 1964. They ought not to be the victims of former discord, nor should they have to pay for the quarrels of their elders. All our intellectuals, including those at present in exile, would have a contribution to make in a climate of democratic tolerance. We cannot allow a brain drain from Brazil.

GOMES DENIES HE IS VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PY171629Y Aparecida Radio Aparecida in Portuguese 1450 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro--Former industry and commerce minister Severo Gomes will leave for Rio de Janeiro today to meet with Senator Magalhaes Pinto, the civilian candidate for the presidency. Speaking yesterday in Sao Paulo on whether his name can be listed as candidate for the vice presidency with Magalhaes Pinto at the national ARENA convention, Gomes said that Magalhaes Pinto has a list of good names which could be candidates for the vice presidency.

According to Gomes, it does not matter whether these names belong to civilians or officers, but that they are good Brazilians willing to serve the country. Gomes refused to confirm if he will be the candidate for the vice presidency with Magalhaes Pinto

JORDAO RAMOS POSSIBLE MDB PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

PY171909Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1714 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 17 Jan--The opposition Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB] may nominate Gen Rodrigo Jordao Ramos for the Brazilian presidency in hope of winning the election, taking advantage of the division within the official party, according to Senate MHD leader Franco Montoro.

Jordao Ramos, at present military court justice, is considered one of the most frequent defenders of the human rights of political prisoners and of reinstatement of a state of law in Brazil.

Montero stated that his party's candidate could be Jordao Ramos or any other member of the party who can unify it.

ARENA could lose the election if it does not reach a consensus regarding a candidate. The MDB and ARENA's dissident wing could then easily choose a new president, added the opposition senator.

FOREIGN MINISTRY TO BE REORGANIZED

PY161430Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 16 Jan 78 PY

[Text] The official BULLETIN reports that the Chilean Foreign Ministry will be reorganized. The BULLETIN clearly states that it is necessary to modernize and adjust current legislation regulating the organization and structure of the Foreign Ministry, its internal service and those related with the government.

The BULLETIN states that in order to provide the ministry, its internal services and those related to the executive branch with all the necessary instruments to carry out its proper functions, the president has been given the power to reorganize the Chilean Foreign Ministry within 200 days.

PDC ASSAILS REGIME FOR SQUELCHING DISSENT

PY172340Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1830 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 17 Jan--In a communique the Christian Democrat Party [PDC] today denounced the existence of a plan which intends to quash any type of expression which is contrary to the policies of the chief of state, Gen Augusto Pinochet.

The PDC communique was distributed to the media 3 days after 12 former leaders and of the party were banished to a northeastern area of the country for allegedly breaking the current political recess.

The communique indicates that during the last few days more than 60 party members have been detained or jailed, some of them having been subjected to illegal and terrible torture [apremios] while others have been banished to distant parts of the country. The group of 12 banished persons was detained on Friday as they were holding a meeting which, according to the Interior Ministry, violated the political recess which has been imposed in the country by the military government.

Apart from those who have been banished, all people who were detained--except one--have been released, according to a list distributed by the PDC.

On taking over power in September 1973, the military government declared political activities in recess. Approximately 12 months ago, it dissolved all political parties.

According to the Government Information Directorate [DIG], the special powers granted the executive branch by the state of siege which has been in force since the military takeover will be applied in the case of those who have been banished.

Referring to the plan it has denounced, the PDC indicated that its implementation is being carried out, once more, with cruelty and persecution. It adds that these illegal procedures are not even supported by the regime's own legality, which attacks the most elemental principles of freedom, justice and equality. It also indicates that these procedures also place the country in a very serious crisis in which the common good is persistently sacrificed in favor of a repressive policy which questions, a little more each day, the demands of national security.

In a speech a week ago in the south of the country, President Pinochet warned that his government would not hesitate to apply a strong hand against those who attempt to politically contaminate the Chilean people.

The PDC was the only political organization which openly ordered its members to vote "no" in a consultation called in order to support the government and to reject a UN vote condemning Chile concerning human rights.

ASYLEES LEAVE FOR SWEDEN, NORWAY

PY171421Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Text] The seven persons who asked for asylum at the Venezuelan Embassy in this capital left for Sweden and Norway after the Foreign Ministry granted them the necessary safe conducts.

Luis Felipe Corneljo Frairle, Graciela Liliana Gallardo Galvez, Luis Omar Perez Santiago, Alberto Federico Herrera and Maria Cristina Herrera Manteluna left for Sweden by Air France. These five persons entered the residence of Venezuelan Ambassador Enrique Aizpurua Ayala during a reception last December.

Hernan Marcelo Rojas and Alejandra Haydee Covarrubias Onate, who also entered the Venezuelan Embassy a few days later, left for Norway, also by Air France.

EXTREMIST KILLED, TWO ARRESTED IN SANTIAGO RAID

PY171324Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Text] An extremist was killed and two women arrested when they used gunfire to try to stop a police raid on a third-floor apartment at 10 (Pablo Goyeneche) Street. After a 25-minute exchange of fire, police used teargas to break in. Police seized weapons, much Marxist literature and copies of the Marxist paper EL REBELDE, edited underground by the proscribed Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR.

BRIEFS

APOSTOLIC NUNCIO DIES--The apostolic nuncio, Msgr Sotero Sanz Villalba, died early this morning in the Catholic University medical center after a painful illness. He has been hospitalized since early December 1977. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY]

PAPER ATTACKS VENEZUELAN NEWS AGENCY PROPOSAL

PA180046Y Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Jan 76 p 4-a PA

[Editorial: "Official Information"]

[Text] It is not just now, when the Latin American education ministers are welcome guests of Bogota, that Venezuela has become interested in creating a news agency sponsored by the Latin American governments. Its interest in this dates back to much earlier times. Neither are criticisms of this idea new among us. But the insistence of the sister country's representatives renews the need for us not to join this initiative for a number of reasons which, in our opinion, are just and appropriate. Previous experiences have shown that the information profession and government combine poorly and usually present very acceptable results only in totalitarian countries, where the experiment has been and continues to be conducted. In order to back their proposal, Venezuela and other Third World countries criticize the foreign information services in a way which those journalists who are thoroughly familiar with this matter know to be untrue, unjust and unrealistic.

The independent U.S. agencies in particular as well as certain European agencies perform an extraordinary task every day. Outstanding among these agencies are those which originate in the United States and which possess an admirable independence. The world learns of events that governments wish to conceal, thanks to the investigations carried out by these agencies' correspondents in almost all parts of the world, even those parts where their work is markedly hindered by extreme leftist or extreme rightist governments. Managing to control a naturally nationalist feeling, they do not hesitate to publish even the most secret details of events that have taken place in private or social circles of the United States. The Watergate case or the atrocities committed in Vietnam were never concealed. On the contrary, they were reported in all their crudity by the UNITED PRESS and the ASSOCIATED PRESS--two U.S. agencies--and by the European AFP and REUTER. It is true that in the past--which, fortunately, has already been changed--pressures were exerted by the commercial groups that controlled the agencies and in this manner certain news stories were distorted. Today the U.S. press and information agencies have freed themselves of this burden and provide impartial information to their thousands of readers.

The opposite occurs in the case of those hybrids formed by the state and private capital or simply run by the state. Journalism does not prevail in those cases, but only constant praise for their official sponsors who never accept criticism. The official news agencies are biased, boring and unacceptable for the modern reader, who demands independence and vivacity.

The Venezuelan delegation has presented valid arguments, such as the granting of more space to cultural activities or the dissemination of news reports aimed at increasing nationalist feelings in order to make better use of the social communications media as cultural instruments. But there are better means to carry out these functions. Would this not be an admirable task worthy of all support if these functions were carried out by the cultural attaches, whose duty is to report on all cultural activities? We feel this is the principal task of so many good diplomats who are spread all over the world, and who in our opinion would be left jobless if the news agencies, economically supported by their respective governments, replaced them in the duties initially assigned to those representatives of our intellectual life. Neither are we Latin Americans in the position to create new bureaucratic establishments whose cost is known to increase disproportionately when compared to their true effectiveness. This is not the time to sponsor such disagreeable initiatives. At least Venezuela and Colombia, two countries with obvious democratic roots and feelings, can fulfill the task of disseminating national culture in ways other than the one proposed. Perhaps other countries, whose regimes of force need constant propaganda abroad, are in urgent need of establishing these systems which are banned in countries where law and the constitution are of some importance.

LATEST REFERENDUM RESULTS GIVEN, GALO PLAZA COMMENTS

PA1716562 Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Excerpts] According to unofficial data, about 1.7 million Ecuadoreans, more than the number formally registered, voted in Sunday's referendum. According to the same sources, the new constitution received over 740,000 votes--equivalent to 44 percent of the votes cast--while the reformed 1945 constitution received over 500,000 votes--or 31 percent. Null votes totaled almost 400,000--about 23 percent--and blank votes totaled about 29,000--2 percent.

These figures must be verified by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal during the next 30 days, but it is not expected that the final vote count will result in a significant variation of these returns. In any case, from a statistical viewpoint, the referendum was judged a success of Galo Plaza, president of the Supreme Electoral Tribunal.

In a new development, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal has decided to eliminate the problem that would have confronted the citizens who did not vote, by rescinding the requirement that voting certificates be presented in all dealings with the government, independent government agencies, private institutions, banks and so forth. The decision was made since many polling places in different parts of the country ran out of voting certificates because of the unexpected large voter turnout. Another reason was that many citizens were not able to vote until 1700 because of long lines and other problems.

When disclosing the Supreme Electoral Tribunal's decision, Galo Plaza was asked why he voted for the new constitution. [Begin recording] In the first place, I feel that the country can find the road to happiness with either of the two constitutions. It is not the constitutions which will bring happiness, but the citizen's actions, the efforts of Ecuadoreans. I found the new constitution to be a progressive constitution, more in line with the seriousness of our times. Moreover, I am not loathe to praise the vote given to illerates in this constitution because, for example, I believe that an illiterate, with his transistor radio, can be better informed than a literate person who has no access to the press. In addition, if an illiterate is required to meet a series of obligations such as paying taxes, I see no reason why he should not decide on matters that concern him greatly.

I feel that the single chamber of representation is very interesting, because it would be a more agile body, more technical, and have fewer political overtones. I would have liked to have voted for a constitution that banned radios from broadcasting speeches in Congress, which would have made that institution indefinitely more decisive.

However, both constitutions contain provisions for amendments. This is important, because we Ecuadoreans must now strive to avoid repeating our previous historic experiences in which the armed forces were obliged to intervene at the first obstacles encountered. Nevertheless, it must be admitted that the Ecuadorean Armed Forces have responded to the citizens' pressure and are now returning power to civilians without further commotion. But we should not be proud of the fact that we have had more than 15 or 16 constitutions. It is to be hoped that this is not just another one.

This constitution has a very important provision--that of nonreelection of presidents. It is to be hoped that this will counteract caudillismo, with the absence of caudillos making it less likely and not as easy for political forces to violate the constitution and establish de facto regimes.

POVEDA BURBANO PRAISES CITIZENS' MATURITY IN REFERENDUM

PA160158Y Quito Domestic Service in Spanish 0130 GMT 16 Jan 78 PA

[Report to the nation by Vice Adm Alfredo Poveda Burbano, chief of the Supreme Council of Government, presumable from the National Government Palace in Quito--live]

[Text] The results of the referendum demonstrate the civic maturity and sense of responsibility of the Ecuadorean people. They deserve the admiration and warmest support on the part of the national government, which has always recognized these virtues that were demonstrated and justified at the polls today. These results also have an important impact on the political future of our fatherland.

Meanwhile, no one can deny the massive popular support given to the legal restructuring plan established by the government of the armed forces. And as has been said many times by the Supreme Council of Government, that plan will continue irrevocably and with ever-increasing vigor to achieve the reestablishment of constitutional order in an orderly, coordinated, responsible and dignified manner as befits a great nation on the path to progress, as is our nation.

POLITICIANS ARRESTED ON SUNDAY GIVEN PRISON SENTENCES

PA171726Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Pichincha police intendant Julio Rojas has sentenced political party leaders and members who were illegally propagandizing during Sunday's referendum. Three of the main leaders of the Democratic Popular Coalition--Luis Gomez Izquierdo of the Democratic National Union, Julio Cesar Trujillo of the Progressive Conservative Party and Oswaldo Hurtado, president of the Christian Democratic Party--were given 15-day sentences. The same sentence was given to Emilio Gustavo Jaime Chiriboga.

Fifteen other citizens, including Maricio Davalos of the Christian Democratic Party, were given 8 days in prison.

The Democratic Popular Coalition, the political group most affected, has protested the sentences, but as Government Minister Col Bolivar Jarrin said on Sunday, political leaders have no special privileges.

Guayaquil general police intendant Jaime Vernaza Trujillo gave a 20-day prison sentence to Assad Bucaram, the supreme director of the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP] and the party's presidential candidate. The other eight CFP leaders who were arrested on Sunday afternoon at Urdeza were given 15-day sentences.

Those arrested with Bucaram are CFP Deputy Director Aquiles Rodriguez Venegas and leaders Marcos Nunez, Daniel Alvarado, Carlos Julio Llerena, Julio Paredes Cabrera, Rafael de la Cadena, Efrem Yepes and Omar Bucaram.

Arrests Explained

PA161524Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 16 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Ecuadorean Government Minister Col Bolivar Jarrin shares the optimism of his chief, Vice Admiral Poveda, regarding the referendum. He said: [begin recording]

I am fully satisfied with today's civic event and I want to congratulate the Ecuadorean people most sincerely and warmly for their great turnout at the polls in response to the armed forces government's patriotic appeal. As I have said more than once, the Ecuadorean people will respond--whenever it is a question of the nation's future--to constructive political leadership.

Today's results show, I think, that I was not wrong. The massive voter turnout and the majority and overwhelming response in favor of the constitutional texts in an atmosphere of complete liberty are witnesses that the Ecuadorean people have shown their political maturity, of which the armed forces government has always been fully convinced. This is in contrast to the attitudes and opinions of some persons and small political groups which labeled the Ecuadorean people as immature, incapable and unprepared for an event of this nature.

In view of all this, it is clear that the Ecuadorean people have expressed their approval and support for the plan of state reorganization proposed by the government of the armed forces, whose execution will be firmly and decidedly continued to its conclusion.

In conclusion, in view of today's events, I invite all our fellow citizens who up until the present expressed their pessimism to join with the majority trend of our people. [end recording]

The minister also referred to the events which shadowed the consultation process such as extemporaneous propaganda and harassment of electors. [begin recording--Bolivar Jarrin]

It is not a question of political arrests, but simply of persons arrested for contravening Decree Law 2130, which is known by all and which was made public at the proper time. Those who contravened this legal decree, which was issued solely to maintain peace and tranquillity today, broke its regulations. It was for this reason that they were placed at the disposal of the proper authorities, as the decree provides and as has been announced in the bulletin that I understand the information secretary has released.

In Guayaquil, we are holding Mr Bucaram and a few other citizens. I have the police report here, but I do not think it is necessary to read it now since the information secretary's bulletin covers the question. [end recording]

Twenty-nine persons were arrested. Among them are: Asaad Bucaram, Luis Gomez Izquierdo, Oswaldo Hurtado, Julio Cesar Trujillo, and Mauricio Davalos. These persons may be given sentences of 8 to 15 days because, as the minister said, these politicians are citizens like anyone else and were not arrested for being politicians but for contravening the supreme decree banning propaganda, starting at 1800 on Saturday.

VENEZUELA WILL NOT GO TO OAS MEETING HELD IN URUGUAY

PA161704Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Jan 78 PA

[Text] A Foreign Ministry source has reported that Venezuela will not attend the OAS conference if it is held in Montevideo. The sources noted that minimal conditions do not exist in Uruguay for the holding of an OAS meeting. The source added that the hemisphere's countries should refrain from going to Montevideo to demonstrate their repudiation of the dictatorial Uruguayan administration, which does not permit democratic freedom.

The source added that Venezuela advocates holding the OAS conference in Washington or in a democratic Latin American country. The OAS conference is scheduled for April in Montevideo.

AMBASSADOR TO NICARAGUA RECALLED TO DISCUSS SITUATION

PA161700Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 16 Jan 78 PA

[Text] President Carlos Andres Perez has said that there are no plans to break diplomatic relations with Nicaragua. He also voiced his concern over the recent incidents in Nicaragua. He said that he recalled Venezuelan Ambassador to Nicaragua Gen Ramon Audelino Moreno to discuss the situation in Nicaragua.

AMBASSADOR REFUTES COLOMBIAN EDITORIAL ON NEWS POLICY PROPOSAL

PA171835Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Venezuelan Ambassador to Colombia Dr Guido Groscoors has stated that it is not true that during the conference on Latin American and Caribbean cultural policies Venezuela introduced a draft resolution on the establishment of official [oficiosas] news agencies. He made this statement in response to an editorial entitled "Official Information" carried by the [Colombian] newspaper EL TIEMPO.

The editorial comments on the effects of what it calls hybrids made up by the state with the participation of private capital would have. The newspaper says that they would not be marked by a journalistic spirit but would merely be interested in praising their official patrons, who would not allow any criticism.

Groscoors said that his country's government advocates creating a Latin American news agency. The ambassador added that it would be a mixed agency and that it would include government representatives, media owners, private news media and newsmen's unions. It would not be a state-owned or intergovernmental news agency, the ambassador added.

MAS TO COMPLAIN OF GOVERNMENT'S CAMPAIGN ABUSES

PA171937Y Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 9 Jan 78 p D-4 PA

[Text] The Movement for Socialism (MAS) intends to bring up the subject of the national government's information policy with the Supreme Electoral Council (CSE). Advance notice of this was provided yesterday afternoon by Antonio Jose Urbina, the party's representative in the CSE.

Urbina said: "This policy appears to have surpassed the limits of the government's legitimate right to inform and has passed into the area of political propaganda, which is not among the government's rights." When asked what he would propose to the CSE, he answered: "We will propose that the CSE have representatives in the leaderships of the state communications media, that is to say, in the media that belong to the Venezuelan people and to the public in general, and not exclusively to the executive branch." He noted that some months ago the CSE appointed a commission, over which he presides, to regulate three questions, namely:

1) The propaganda and activity of presidential candidates. This regulation has already been approved and is being applied.

2) Government propaganda in the communications media. Several working papers have been drawn up on this matter, and next week the commission will study them.

3) The equal participation of presidential candidates in the state communications media.

AD CANDIDATE PINERUA ORDAZ REGISTERS

PA180156Y Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Presidential candidate Luis Pinerua Ordaz today registered in the permanent electoral register. He went to the electoral inscription center in El Cafetal in order to participate in the [words indistinct]. The Democratic Action [AD] candidate was accompanied by his wife, Mrs Villaroel de Pinerua, his children and other relatives. The ceremony was attended by members of the Supreme Electoral Council, who (?witnessed) the registration of the AD candidate. Enrique Padilla Ron, AD representative before the Supreme Electoral Council, was also present at the ceremony. Luis Alberto Pinerua Jr and [name indistinct] are new voters in this election.

ARMED FORCES ASKED TO FIGHT CATTLE RUSTLING

PA180159Y Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Text] The justice minister has asked for the cooperation of the armed forces in order to deal efficiently with cattle rustling. This information was revealed by the director of the Judicial Technical Police [PTJ] Manuel Molina (Dasteri). Molina was queried in connection with the insecurity of the cattlemen caused by crime. In this respect he said that Minister Juan Martin Echeverria had met with National Defense Minister Gen Fernando Paredes Bello to ask for the cooperation of the armed forces in the fight against cattle rustling and to implement other measures in order to provide better security for the farmers, the PTJ director said.

FINANCE MINISTER REPORTS FAVORABLE CURRENCY FORECAST

PA171910Y Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Minister of Finance Dr Luis Jose Silva Luongo has said that in 1978 the bolivar will remain firm and that it will not be revalued, devalued or have any exchange controls placed on it. He said that the dollar will pick up and become stable before the end of the year and that this will have a favorable effect on the bolivar. The minister of finance said that the OPEC countries are paying attention to what is happening to the dollar, but that they are not intent on directly pegging oil prices to the dollar.

BRAZIL'S GIESEL, LOPEZ-PORTILLO HIGHLIGHT COOPERATION

PA1719172Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1022 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Jan (AFP)--The presidents of Mexico and Brazil, Jose Lopez-Portillo and Ernesto Geisel, respectively, agreed here tonight that their two countries could achieve a very beneficial mutual cooperation.

Geisel and Lopez-Portillo made statements to this effect in separate speeches at the end of a dinner offered by the Mexican Government for the Brazilian chief of state and his retinue.

The Mexican president said that the two peoples belong to the Latin American community which, since its inception, has cherished a definite desire for unity--a community consisting of a group of greatly similar countries which share the belief that there is an urgent need to join efforts and which, nevertheless, remain disunited because of the divisive action of new hegemonies.

"The highways of our countries," Lopez-portillo added, "were planned for exploitation [exaccion], not for development. They linked us to centers of domination [metropolis impuestas], isolating neighbors and brothers."

"Differences have been promoted and there has been an attempt to hide our similarities. They have made us fierce competitors, when in our own interest we should be complementary," he added. "Despite everything," the host president said, "the vitality of our peoples is bringing us to the desired unification."

Lopez-Portillo said that there are many economic areas in which making the product of Brazilian and Mexican resources and labor complementary would increase the capacity of both. Lopez-Portillo said that Mexico and Brazil can cooperate in the iron and steel industry, basic industry and capital goods, in energy and in the exchange of agricultural and manufactured products. All this, he emphasized, "will permit us to fight against arbitrary price fixing and unjust protectionist barriers."

For his part, President Geisel said that Brazil shares the belief that current world problems do not reflect a temporary disruption of international life, but rather a great upheaval of the international structure which portends great modifications in the economy, in culture, in relations among peoples and even within society, man and nature.

"We are fully aware, Mr President," Geisel said, "that Brazil and Mexico are complex countries with different national experiences and that we have much to learn through our dialog."

"All our similarities will surely facilitate an understanding between us: Brazil and Mexico's capacity for achievement, the willingness with which both peoples have committed themselves to the pursuit of development and both peoples' desire to integrate their best traditions and their most legitimate political aspirations."

Geisel emphasized in an emotional tone that the two countries "desire to increase this cooperation even more in the future. We have every reason to believe that this will occur."

Lopez-Portillo and Giesel also shared the desire to see the definitive establishment of world peace and reiterated their conviction that it is possible to reach a peaceful solution to every conflict.

In addition, they declared that they agree on the need to establish a new international economic order, considering that this is an essential and urgent task that will permit the international obstacles which hinder the developing countries to be overcome.

The dinner, which was attended by over 1,500 guests, was held in the Salon Reforma of the Mexican Foreign Ministry. Observers have noted that this is the first time the salon has been used for a dinner.

The two presidents and their wives shared the table of honor with Foreign Ministers Santiago Roel and Antonio Azeredo da Silveira, Brazilian Mines and Energy Minister Shigeaki Ueki and Brazilian Industry and Commerce Minister Angelo Calom de Sa.

In addition, Petronio Portella and Marco Antonio Maciel, presidents of the chambers of senators and deputies, respectively, attended the dinner, among others.

SAO PAULO: REPORTERS THREATENED AT GEISEL RECEPTION

PY171416Y Sao Paulo Cadeia Verde Amarela in Portuguese 1000 GMT 17 Jan 78 PY

[Report from Mexico by (Luis Carlos Gradel)]

[Summary] Fulfilling his official agenda, President Geisel attended a reception at 1400 yesterday at the home of the Brazilian Ambassador to Mexico. Brazilian security forces opposed the presence of reporters at the reception, although they were invited by the Brazilian ambassador to Mexico.

One of the reporters, on asking President Geisel a question in the presence of his other colleagues, was threatened with having his credentials canceled.

"On learning of the incident, Col Jose Maria de Toledo Camargo, head of the presidential press department, met with reporters and told them he had the right to cancel any credentials but that he had no intention of doing so. He reported, however, that President Geisel is not going to hold any private interviews, only collective interviews."

BRAZILIAN FOREIGN MINISTER IRRITATED BY MEXICAN ACCUSATIONS

PA180238Y Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Brazilian Foreign Minister Antonio Azeredo da Silveira's statements before a large group of journalists suggesting that the Mexican Government cannot cast the first stone against Latin America's fascist dictatorships have elicited enormous indignation.

Harassed by newsmen, who asked him to respond to the thousands of denunciations connected with assassinations and the mass repression prevaling in Brazil, an ostensibly irritated Azeredo da Silveria affirmed that Mexicans are not seen with benevolent eyes either.

The foreign minister made these statements during a news conference held in Mexico City on the occasion of Brazilian President Ernesto Geisel's visit to Mexico.

BRAZILIAN ENERGY MINISTER ON BUYING MEXICAN OIL

FL172117Y Mesico City INFORMEX in Spanish t ANSA Buenos Aires 3106 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jan (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Brazilian Mines and Energy Minister Shigeaki Ueki, member of the entourage of President Geisel who is visiting Mexico, has said that Brazil is not desperately trying to buy Mexican oil. He added that oil dependence will not stop his country's development.

Ueki reported that the bases have been established for trade in petrochemical goods, steel and phosphate rock and exploitation of sulfur, aluminum, (?bauxite), alumina and cellulose.

"In the future, Mexico will be an important oil producer. We want to buy its oil but this is subject to a change in current conditions; that Mexico has a port to receive large tankers and that the freight for such oil be profitable for our country," Ueki said.

CUBAN MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

FL172151Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2112 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jan (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Cuban Culture Minister Armando Hart Davalos has maintained that it is necessary for Latin American governments to be aware of the control which transnational companies exercise over the news media.

At a press conference during a stop here on his return from the Latin American and Caribbean Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Affairs, the Cuban minister emphasized the struggle that must be waged for the cultural identity of Puerto Rico, sovereignty of Panama and an end to fascism in Chile.

He also declared that relations between Mexico and Cuab "are at a high level and it is of interest to the two peoples to expand them even more."

COMMUNIST PARTY CALLS FOR DISMISSAL OF ALLEGED CIA AGENT

PA140403Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2350 GMT 13 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Jan (EFE)--The Mexican Communist Party today called for the removal of a former Mexcian diplomat who has been charged with collaborating with the U.S. intelligence service in Cuba. His name is Humberto Carrillo Colon and he was press attache in the Mexican Embassy in Havana. He was thrown out of Cuba in 1969 on charges of working for the CIA. Carrillo Colon has been recently appointed press and public relations chief in the city hall in Tampico, a major port in the northeastern part of the country.

The Cuban Government charged the former diplomat with spying for the CIA in Cuba. The evidence was turned over to the Mexican Government which, in turn, simply dismissed him from the diplomatic service.

BRIEFS

STEEL INDUSTRY INVESTMENT--The Mexican steel industry plans to invest 35 billion pesos over the next (?3) years to raise production capacity from 9 to 11.6 million tons per year to fulfill the increasing domestic demand for steel. The program was made public in a press communique issued by the Secretariat of Patrimony and Industrial Development. [Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 10 Jan 78 PA]

TORRIJOS DELIVERS SPEECH AT UNIVERSITY

PA180148Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1459 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Speech by Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera at inauguration of fourth seminar on U.S.-Panamanian relations sponsored by Panamanian Education Ministry at University of Panama--live]

[Excerpts] Ever since the subject of this seminar was introduced, thereby filling a great information and knowledge vacuum for our youth, I have followed it closely--how it was conducted and its effect on the souls of our adolescents brought about by the knowledge of what we are and where we come from.

If we do not inform our generations of where we come from, they will believe that everything occurred by spontaneous combustion. They will believe that everything occurred by magic or by the grace of God.

With no conquests and no structure, no country progresses. It does so only by the sum of the sacrifices that each generation must make in order to leave the country's material structures and social conquests more advanced than when it received them.

This subject is basic. Only by having gained the experience of how things are carried out can we add elements and perhaps eliminate others. However, as is the case with all new subjects, everything is not well-defined until the results indicate just how we should proceed and, above all, how we can make it possible for there to be a great capacity to reach answers, a great capacity for understanding unforeseen problems.

In every struggle for liberation--and we understand struggle for liberation to mean the attitude of a people toward a national objective--in every struggle for liberation, which does not necessarily have to be associated with upheaval, terrorism or irregular warfare--the manner in which the weak respond to the strong--[changes thought] we do not necessarily have to associate liberation with this type of activity because the struggle for liberation must begin with negotiation so that they may later have the support of the world's moral conscience. If it does not begin with negotiation, the moral conscience of the world, which is an invisible but existent force, the moral conscience of the world, which is precisely the forum which the weak uses as a basis against the strong, the moral conscience of the world could later object to or question whether all requirements were met, all requirements which later justify an explosion of violence.

I know that every struggle for liberation is the effort of an entire people to achieve an objective and that struggles for liberation, once they are won or once victory is in sight, involve profound changes.

Once the treaty is ratified, we will establish new aspects of a new republic. We will establish a new era, which I would call a geological era, in which we will face different political and economic situations. It is up to us to see that these new situations serve to stimulate a new social era of distribution because if this new political and economic era is not channeled properly--in such a way as to benefit many--it could be a negative geological era, a retrogressive era. This is where we must be alert. I say that we have to be alert because this is not the effort of a government, it is the effort of all the citizenry, the sum of a struggle of generations. And this sum of the struggle of generations for the conquest of an objective, which is a fundamental change in the political and economic areas, could become a social stab in the back for our people unless we are alert and unless we collectivize the benefits which this effort has brought to the nation for the benefit of the republic.

When I say that if this struggle for liberation ends with the elimination of those signs which say "no trespassing" only to be replaced by signs which say "beware of the dog," we will have more or less the same thing. If it ends the domination of those with blue eyes, white skins, red hair and freckles and begins domination by the native, domination by a few to the detriment of the many, we will not have liberated anything. It would have been a trick.

That is why at this time we are not involved in a normal operating procedure in politics. We are participating in a great event. And this great event will work to the benefit of future generations to the extent that you remain vigilant.

We must be vigilant precisely because we will be the owners of our main natural resource. However, the country which was born mutilated--our forefathers left it to us mutilated, they left it to us unintegrated--we are going to turn it over to you integrated, with a single flag, with a single geography and incorporated into the economic and moral geography of the country. I say moral, not legal, because it is immoral--whether or not it is legal--to have a foreign police force in a part of the geography of our country.

We are going to leave to you an integrated country. And I believe, and I assure you, that we are only a few weeks, a few days and a very few full moons away from the ratification of the treaty.

It is not just the ratification of the treaty. It is a change of attitude. It is a matter of getting rid of a problem which weighs as much as many tons of ignominy. It weighs so heavily on our consciences that each of us, at some time in our lives, have asked ourselves: Have we not been cowardly? Could we not have delayed too long in finding the solution to this problem? Could we not have waited too long for the humanitarianism of those who enslave us to grant us liberty? Could we not have turned to the system of the free slave who achieved his liberty through rebellion, rather than turning to the system of the slave who achieved his liberty by appealing to the humanitarianism of the person enslaving him?

At times I have asked myself these questions. However, we are only a few days away from the ratification and, with it, a new attitude. This new attitude is a new awareness in which each year to come will be a deadline for the turnover of something. In the 6 months after ratification, so much will be turned over. One year later, so much. Three years later, we recover our sovereignty because the last policeman of the Canal Zone and the patrols and the gates and all those untenable things will be gone. [applause]

As I said before, let us not think that ratification solves everything. A new attitude, a new era will be created, and the structure of government and the structure of struggle of the people will determine whether this resource will be used as collectively as possible.

I said that you should not have too much hope because the canal does not represent more than 15, 16, 17, 18, at most 18 percent of the national wealth. But let us not think in terms of cash registers, balboas or dollar signs. Let us think of the wealth which will be created by the satisfaction of seeing one's fatherland integrated under one flag.

I say this because for some time the canal has produced from $170 to $200 million for the country's general economy. Therefore, the construction of the sugar mills was not by spontaneous combustion.

We are going to produce sufficient tons [of sugar] so that if at any time the canal does not exist, we could replace the income from it with income, in currency, with foreign income from sugar. The sugar cane plan is so structured as to produce from the land, through the sugar cane agroindustry, the necessary income that can, at a determined time, replace the income from the canal.

Now, you are going to ask: What is the general doing, talking with so many senators and even insinuating that there can be a modification? How do you say it? An amendment.

The senators are coming. The fact that they are coming presupposes that they are interested in the problem. With those who are coming now, one-third of the Congress has visited. But what is of interest to us is for them to come and see the contours of the problem. All the indicators of colonialism are present there. They are there. Let them come and see these people. Let them mix with these people. They are faced with people who have a university. Yesterday, one of them asked me: Torrijos, is there a Supreme Court of Justice here?

About those people, let us not say that they are ignorant. Let us say that they have so many problems in the world that they have to give priority in accordance with the pressure which the country exerts.

I said, yes, there is a Supreme Court of Justice because the only thing which makes a country different from a tribe is that it has a Supreme Court of Justice. You have never seen a tribal organization with a Supreme Court of Justice.

Therefore, one has to have great patience. Yes sir. And when I am asked: Are you such and so, I do not answer because one should not answer things that are not relevant. One should never answer things that are not relevant because one becomes defensive and they ask: Are you this? And you answer: No. Are you that? No. Are you this? No. Are you that? No. And then you get on the defesive saying: I am not, I am not, I am not, and this ends with an "Our Father, Mea Culpa, Mea Culpa, Mea Culpa." And I am not blaming myself for anything--they are the ones who are blaming me. And one says: Patience, because the end is in sight.

There should be an effort to explain to students the position of the country within the context of the 152 members of the United Nations. I say it must be explained in this context because the students must have the time to meditate freely and reach a consensus. And it is not possible either to seek the students' consensus because there are some things which are somewhat confidential or restricted. And one can ask: What is this about Belize? You do things as if there were not enough to worry about without going into Belize's business. First of all, it is a line that is consistant with our way of thinking. We cannot permit the existence of a colony because no one has more moral right to say and awareness of what a colony means than we do.

Moreover, it is because the country, among the benefits, I mean among the things [does not complete sentence]. I am asked: Hey Omar, what is the best thing that your government has done? A highway, a bridge? Anyone can build a highway or a bridge. A 150-kilometer highway is remembered until a 200-kilometer highway is built.

I think that the greatest thing we have done, and something of about which I am most satisfied, is to have shown the world that this country does not wish to be a colony and that the Panamanian has no desire to be a colonist. Thank you very much.

MATUTINO COMPLAINS OF GROWING U.S. CHAUVINISM

PA171938Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 17 Jan 78 p 4-a PA

[Commentaries in "Black and White" column: "Growing Chauvinism Against Panama"]

[Text] There are many who--based on a very realistic view of imperialism's domination--have expressed their concern over the improbability that the Senate will ratify the Torrijos-Carter treaties in the first half of this year.

The political struggle between Democrats and Republicans--including the ambitions and tactics of Republican minority leader Howard Baker and the no less expressive and cautious attitude of majority leader Robert Byrd--worries those who see President Carter facing a campaign of growing nationalism with dangerous leanings toward chauvinism personified and led by Ronald Reagan.

Carter will have to prove that he is the President of the United States of North America and that the agreements he signs are respected.

But many feel that Reagan, Baker and even some Democrats with presidential ambitions will not allow Carter to consolidate his position for reelection through a victory in his relations with Latin America.

From this viewpoint, ratification of the new treaties is doubtful.

LIBERALS SEEK LEGALIZATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES

PA180153Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Carlos Lucas Lopez, acting as the representative of National Liberal Party President David Samudio, has filed a petition of unconstitutionality with the Supreme Court of Justice against Article 1 of Cabinet Decree No 58 of 3 March 1969, alledging that it violates Articles 12, 124, 125 and 273 of the national constitution. Lopez said that the decree in question is the one which outlawed political parties in Panama.

The seven-page petition was presented to Santander Casis, secretary general of the Supreme Court of Justice, in the presence of David Samudio. Lopez said that the 1972 constitution, as did the 1946 constitution, adheres to the democratic and representative government style and states that political parties are indispensable in every government of this type. The petition states that the decree--which is considered unconstitutional because it outlawed the political parties--directly violates Article 273 which abolishes all laws and other legal norms which are contrary to the constitution. Lopez said in his petition that the constitution approved in 1972 sets forth the possibility that the state can supervise and pay for part of the expenses of the political parties in the election processes and cites Article 125 of the constitution now in force. The unconstitutionality petition was submitted together with the documents in which David Samudio grants special powers to his lawyer, Carlos Lucas Lopez.

LIBERAL PARTY PRESIDENT QUIJANO ON COMING ELECTIONS

PA162245Y Panama City DOMINICAL in Spanish 15 Jan 78 p 14-e PA

[Statements by Liberal Party President Guillermo Elias Quijano--place or date not given]

[Text] "Any participation by the Liberal Party in the elections planned for August will necessarily depend on the objectives which the party sets for itself. It is too early at present to expand on this point. However, I can say that we do not recognize the so-called 'extinction' of the parties decreed on 3 March 1969."

Guillermo Elias Quijano, present honorary president for life of the Liberal Party--and perhaps the principal architect of the party's fruitful political activity in the 1950's and 1960's, when he was president of the National Directorate for 8 consecutive years--speaks with severity, firmness and conviction. At this time of the so-called "political opening," an interview with Don Guillermo seemed necessary and natural. The political inactivity of the past 9 years has not negated his undeniable value to the Liberal Party which, in recognition of his continuing efforts on behalf of party affairs, has designated him honorary president for life.

It is a matter of listening to a voice which one knows beforehand will have a decisive influence when the time comes to take action in accordance with the program to exercise the democratic right and duty of electing and being elected.

To Quijano, the problem of the political parties at present does not involve their legalization since "the 1972 constitution upholds the legality of the political parties."

The Liberal leader feels that the important thing "is the goal that was sought when the present political system was established."

"In our opinion, the objective of this regime was pure absolutism since the so-called people's power does not represent the interests of the citizenry in general. In practice, we have seen that behind a facade of apparent broad popular representation in the assembly, government by a few has been institutionalized. The true essence of the government is government by cabinet decree."

One of the questions with which we are faced in considering the possibility that the traditional political parties--which have been officially inactive for almost 9 years--may resume activity for the elections planned for August of this year concerns the "generational gap" caused by that official inactivity.

The question was posed to Don Guillermo and led to a very interesting comment. "I believe that we have maintained links with the youth, although we have done nothing specific with them because of the limitations imposed by the repressive cabinet decrees," he said.

We were speaking of the participation of over 200,000 youths who are 18 years of age or older and who have the right to vote for the first time, a right which they exercised en masse, patriotically and decisively in the past plebiscite in which the Torrijos-Carter treaties were ratified. We believe, as we said to Quijano, that the vote of youths between 18 and 21 years of age is a threat to organizations which have not been active during the time that these young people were becoming politically conscious.

Quijano, however, is optimistic in this regard: "Liberalism is a doctrine for youth. It is evolutionary and, therefore, easy to update in consonance witha changing world. Its postulates of liberty and participation are rooted in all young men and its social aspirations are perfectly compatible with a life of freedom."

"Voting at 18 years of age is related to the responsibilities which the individual must meet in the community at that age. In the case of Panamanians, it is obvious that the 18 year-old youth is working to pay for his studies, is paying taxes and is struggling for his fatherland. Therefore, he should have a voice and a vote in government affairs," Quijano said.

Several days ago, Guillermo Quijano represented the Liberal Party during the Panamenist Party national convention held in Santiago, Veraguas. On that occasion, Quijano spoke about the bitter struggles between the two political groups. He said: "About 10 years ago it was taken for granted that we would remain political adversaries forever." The situation has changed.

"Panama's present and future require that both parties look for common grounds on which to rebuild the real democracy that the citizens want," Quijano told the Panamenists.

Quijano then defended the Liberal Party institutions which were part of the political-administrative apparatus up to the time of the approval of the 1972 constitution. He said that "the Liberal idea of separation into branches of power guarantees a real democracy."

In that speech, Quijano said that "a new phase of democratic conciliation is continuing in the country." In view of this, we spoke with Quijano regarding any possibility that, given the necessary conditions, the Liberal Party might participate in the current government. The phase of conciliation that Quijano spoke about before the Panamenists apparently does not include the current government.

"Participation in the current government does absolutely nothing to resolve the country's problems. I believe that forming part of a government entails very specific principles and positions that in our case would possibly be opposed by the current rulers. We have reiterated our objectives at this time. They are: full democratization of the political structures, austerity in expenditures, respect for human rights, return of the exiles, free enterprise and transfer of the coercive power to the juridical institutions, removing it from the political institutions."

"One judges a public administration from its final results," Quijano said. He added that although "with all honesty one must note progress in certain areas, the final outcome is the dreadful economic, social and political crisis the nation is experiencing."

During the interview, Quijano also referred to the participation of the Liberal Party in the country's history, adding that "it was the most productive participation in our political history."

One of the most controversial subjects throughout the first weeks of the "political opening" has been that of the legislative system based on the National Legislation Commission. Asked his opinion about that legislative system, the former [as published] president of liberalism gave an emphatic no to the system. "As I previously said, that system is nothing more than government by cabinet decree. The citizenry's interests are not represented and the so-called consultation is a myth because in the long run the orders of the political cabinet are followed."

Quijano is also emphatic in his opposition to the system of indirect election of the country's main authorities, stating that "the direct system is the only one by which the citizens can express their opinions, without intermediaries, about the kind of leadership they want."

Quijano had previously said that "regarding our concern as political groups, our experience should teach us that even within the struggle of the parties there are certain rules of coexistence with, tolerance of and respect for the democratic institutions that must remain unchanged in order to strengthen public freedoms and human rights."

The national government has publicly stated that the activity of all political groups is not only permitted but that it is being encouraged throughout the country. Some groups, including the Liberal Party, have already begun their activities by holding meetings at various levels.

Nevertheless, the panorama is still not totally clear for some leaders of those political groups. Quijano is among those leaders. He said: "I cannot tell you if the Liberal Party will participate in the next elections. Our decision will depend on serious considerations that will require a broad consensus within the party."

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC MESSAGE TO PANAMENIST CONVENTION

PA1400052Y Panama City Cadena Exitosa in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Jan 78 PA

[Christian Democratic Party greeting to Panamenist Party convention held in Santiago, Veraguas Province, on 8 January 1978, as read by Christian Democratic Party leader Guillermo A. Cochez Jr during "Canonero de Domplin" panel discussion program--live]

[Text] The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] does not plan to raise its banners during this important meeting. Its solidarity [with other groups] for the good of the country is not a new development. The participants in this meeting are aware of our limited but ongoing pursuit of a civic state of affairs so that the country may be able to return to a government that is freely elected by the people. Whenever the scale of justice and the correct judgment of the Panamanian people have favored the Panamenist Party, the Christian Democratic Party has been insolidarity with the Panamanist Party. Its solidarity has been wholehearted. For instance, the Christian Democratic Party had no qualms in permitting one of its most prominent leaders, Dr Ruben Arosemena Guardia, to serve as minister of education under the 1968 administration.

The Panamenist Party leaders who are meeting in this province, land of the Caudillo Urraca, are thereby reminding the administration that it can no longer blame the political parties for the huge problems of the present time because the incumbent administration already has a frustrating political past. The most superficial analysis will show that no political party has recently ruled as long as this administration has been in power with its peculiar style of government. However, the administrative disorder is bordering on cynicism because it has been publicly admitted by the top-ranking government officials, and it has become a nightmare for all Panamanians. Today, out of an unbelievable spirit of demagoguery, efforts are being made to blame all the country's socioeconomic ills that have been accrued over the past 9 long years on the U.S. Senate because it has not promptly approved the treaties, on the workers because they have abused their rights and on the meager aid private investors are giving to development plans.

It is typical of the incumbent administration to blame others. We are faced with a nation that is profoundly divided, even though we are daily urged to struggle for national unity. We can see today that the tragic result of this division that has been encouraged by government officials who are afraid of losing the privileges that the administration has bestowed upon them is noticeable in the insecurity, mistrust, fear and uncertainty that all Panamanians feel. This situation has caused much frustration to us Panamanians, as well as business closures or bankruptcy, unemployment and the reigning economic chaos that its promoters want to blame, with an unbelievable lack of responsibility, on third parties who in many instances have been no more than victims of the unrestrained will to power of those who have gained wealth at the expense of the public treasury.

It is the united political parties that must pose a valid alternative capable of bringing Panama out of the near deadend to which we have been brought, where all those things for which an administration can be criticized have dominated the activities of a government that does not count on the collective support of the people and whose mainstay is the national armed forces. The armed forces are often unaware of the policies implemented by the ruling clique.

We can satisfactorily see today how the political groups that have the largest following, setting aside any past grudges and focusing on the national welfare, are meeting and sharing the noble ideal of giving Panama the possibility of becoming a democracy under which human rights are upheld and the right to live in a climate of peace, tranquility and freedom through social justice is assured for all Panamanians. It is encouraging to see how we are taking advantage of the Indian summer of democracy that has been in inevitably tolerated by the United States during the stage of ratification of the treaties and that should be the beginning of a permanent summer [of democracy].

The only thing to which the men who have a calling to be free will never become accustomed to is an imposed administration that does not represent the majority of all Panamanians. In an effort to stay in power, those who rule have imposed on us a divisive policy. Therefore, we have not only seen the political banners that have legitimately wanted to suggest national solutions estranged from each other, but this policy has also had the expected negative results of estranging and dividing businessmen, merchants, women, workers, peasants, professionals, students and clergy.

As Panama is experiencing its worst economic crisis ever, the unity of all conscientious Panamanians is necessary as the only possible way of setting the country on the course of advancement from which it has strayed. Disunited, we will merely play along with those who by all means try to keep us apart. That is why we need to join forces, reminding the country that Panamenists, Republicans, Liberals, Christian Democrats and many other Panamanians have an immediate duty to the nation. We must give our people the opportunity they need, the way out of this unparalleled national crisis.

Unity is necessary because the country not only belongs to everybody but we all compose it. We all need a solution now to which we can devote our efforts so the national reconstruction we advocate can become a reality. The country needs our guidance now to avoid having the present and future generations pass judgment on us for being unable to provide the country with the political solution that it needs and cannot be achieved unless we establish the active, committed and public unity that the people want.

The common goal of our united efforts must be that the ideas of any one of the political groups meeting here today or those that might join us along the way will not prevail. Unity must be based on a common denominator of the ideas of our people and this is the basis of all our parties. Our common denominator is that the state should be administered for the good of all Panamanians, and not for the good of those in power at any given time.

We all agree that the state should encourage, aid and spur on those who want to contribute their private or collective efforts toward the country's economic development without using government controls to blackmail [chantajear] those efforts in the name of force and arbitrariness. The common denominator consists in seeking the means so that the right to life that we all claim to uphold will really be based on the recognition of the right to hold a steady job. This right is necessary to provide the sustenance necessary to live and involves a judicious compensation to all the elements of production that produce the goods and services that make our country great; that is, capital, land [tierra], labor and management.

This is the message of unity that the Christian Democratic Party wants to leave in the minds and hearts of all the Panamenists in attendance or represented here and of those Panamanians who are away from this democratic hall because they were illegally exiled.

We conclude this greeting to your important meeting by giving patriotic testimony that the victory of the national unity will be achieved through the active participation of all our parties.

For freedom through social justice, for national reconstruction, the Christian Democratic Party will always answer: Present!

CENTRAL AMERICAN AFFAIRS

HONDURAS, EL SALVADOR TO HOLD FIRST MEETI G WITH MEDIATOR

PA180252Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2340 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[By Leonidas Castillo]

[Text] Callao, Peru, 17 Jan (LATIN)--Honduras and El Salvador begin here tomorrow the first meeting with Peruvian mediator Jose Luis Bustamante y Rivero in the effort to harmonize their positions and end their 8-year break in diplomatic and trade relations.

Former Honduran Foreign Minister Cesar A. Bare, on his arrival here today, announced hopes to put an end to the differences through a "treaty drafted by the two parties."

"Honduras has always evidenced its willingness for a settlement by using all the peaceful means provided by international law," Batre said during a press conference at the Jorge Chavez International Airport. He added that the treaty which seeks to solve the border conflict will be based on seven topics: peace and a treaty, diplomatic and consular relations, free transit, border issues, Central American Common Market, claims and differences, human rights and families.

"Tomorrow's meeting between us and the Salvadoran representative is for the purpose of agreeing on details of [passage indistinct].

He said the period for the signing of the treaty starts with the tripartite meeting which is scheduled to take place at the residence of Bustamante y Rivero, former Peruvian president (1943-1948), and which will later continue at a private office.

"During the first 30 days, Honduras and El Salvador will submit to the mediator a joint report on the agreements already reached. After 60 days the two countries will present their viewpoints on the topics to be discussed," the former minister pointed out.

"Later, the mediator will have 90 days in which to conduct whatever investigations he may deem necessary. Once this is done he will proceed, together with the interested parties (Honduras and El Salvador), to draft the general treaty which will cover all topics. We hope the differences will be settled then," he added.

Batre regretted El Salvador's previous denunciation of the American treaty for peaceful solutions, known as "the Bogota Pact." El Salvador expressed some reserves about the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice.

"With such a stance, El Salvador blocked any possibilities of a means of finding a solution. We hope it will change its attitude on this occasion," he said.

Batre said the border differences date back to 1861 and involve six zones which lack demarcation and which total 419 square kilometers. He added that the agreements to be reached will be at the "treaty" level, as drafted by the two parties.

He added that the diplomatic and trade relations between the two countries have been interrupted for 8 years and that it was El Salvador which broke the relations in June 1969 after "invading and bombing" Salvadoran territory. [as received]

Meanwhile, mediator Bustamante y Rivero declines to give an opinion on his task and pointed out that his position is of "moderation and neutrality." He will reveal his opinions "in due time."

Bustamante y Rivero was a magistrate of the International Court of Justice following his overthrow as president by deceased Gen Manuel Odria in 1948.

BELIZE

UK GOVERNMENT HAS REACHED NO AGREEMENT WITH GUATEMALA

FL162000Y Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 11 Jan 78 p 1 FL

[Text] Dr. David Owen, secretary of state for foreign affairs of the United Kingdom, through a spokesman, assured Conservative Member of Parliament Mr. Richard Luce that the British Government had no agreement with Guatemala involving the transfer of a strip of Belizean land. The spokesman confirmed that there were talks between the British and the Guatemalan governments but these talks were entirely exploratory.

Mr. Richard Luce had sent a letter to Dr. Owen asking for assurances that there would be no agreement with Guatemala over Belize without the consent of the people and government of Belize.

When asked to state the current British position on any agreement with Guatemala, the spokesman for the foriegn office stated the position was unchanged, "no agreement will be made with Guatemala unless it is acceptable to the government and people of Belize." The spokesman further said that such has always been the position of the British Government.

When asked to comment on press reports that agreement had been reached with Guatemala involving the transfer of a strip of land, the spokesman said there had been no agreement and the talks with the Guatemalan Government had been entirely exploratory.

When asked if a date had been set for the next round of talks with the Guatemalan Government, the Foreign Office spokesman said none had been fixed. The last formal round of negotiations was held in Washington the 6th & 7th July, 1977.

Reports are that there have been proposals to transfer land but such proposals have been resisted by the premier when he maintained government's policy to stand by the United Nations resolutions supporting a secure independence and territorial integrity for Belize.

PRIME MINISTER IN JAMAICA TO MEET WITH ROWLANDS

FL180220Y Belize City Domestic Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jan 78 FL

[Text] The premier, the Honorable George Price, left this morning for the Jamaican capital. In Kingston, Mr Price will meet with Mr Ted Rowlands, minister of state in the foreign and commonwealth affairs office. Mr Rowlands is visiting the Caribbean. The BBC of London said this morning that the Belizean leader and the British minister would hold talks on the territorial dispute between Great Britain and Guatemala over Belize. It stated that the meeting is being held following talks between Mr Rowlands and U.S. officials in Washington last week [passage indistinct].

During the absence of the Belize premier, the deputy premier, the Honorable C.L.B. Rogers, will be acting premier.

EL SALVADOR

PEASANTS DEMONSTRATE DEMANDING LEASING OF LAND

PA112210Y San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1720 GMT 11 Jan 78 PA

[SERCANO Network]

[Text] Peasants belonging to the Revolutionary People's Bloc have carried out a public demonstration demanding the leasing of lands for the 1978-1979 working year. The demonstration was held in Zacatecoluca, some 56 km from San Salvador.

The demonstrators, according to reports gathered by SERCANO, numbered over 4,000. They also demanded socioeconomic improvements for the agricultural workers and the leasing of idle lands.

NEWSPAPERS MOURN CHAMORRO'S DEATH

PA120348Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2212 GMT 11 Jan 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 11 Jan (AFP)--The Association of Central American Newspapers today expressed its sorrow and dismay over yesterday's murder of Nicaraguan journalist Pedro Joaquin Chamorro. The statement from the organization was published in the local newspapers. These newspapers also expressed their mourning over the death of Chamorro. The newspaper DIARIO DE HOY made a special report on the case, while the Association of Journalists of El Salvador sent a message of condolence to LA PRENSA in Nicaragua.

MINISTER REFUTES U.S. CONGRESSMAN'S CHARGES

PA150045Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2034 GMT 14 Jan 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 14 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Robert Drinan, a U.S. priest and congressman from the state of Massachusetts, has not told the truth, Salvadoran Justice Minister Rafael Flores y Flores said here today as he refuted Drinan's statements on the violation of human rights in this country.

Flores y Flores told the press that Drinan had ignored the most elemental principle of respect and courtesy toward El Salvador and its officials, who at all times cooperated with him and provided him with all kinds of information.

According to Flores y Flores, he met with the visiting congressman. During their meeting Drinan was disrespectful to everyone, threatening to vote against U.S. aid for El Salvador. He also affirmed that the congressman had accepted in advance all statements of a single sector, without accepting in the least what others might have to say.

Concluding, the high-ranking Salvadoran official said that Drinan had displayed a total lack of interest in the progress made in El Salvador in various areas and in the current administration's efforts to improve the people's living conditions.

GUATEMALA

MINISTER SURPRISED OVER BELIZE SETTLEMENT RUMORS

PA180232Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0037 GMT 18 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 17 Jan (AFP)--Guatemalan Foreign Minister Adolfo Molina Orantes today expressed surprise at the spreading rumors about an alleged agreement between Guatemala and the United Kingdom over Belize.

The minister said that should a settlement be reached with the British, it would have to be known by the Guatemalan Congress and cabinet. He announced that the negotiations will continue in February, at an unspecified date and place.

HONDURAS

COMMUNIST LEADER ON NEW ELECTORAL LAW

PA172354Y San Pedro SULA TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Jan 78 p 19 PA

[Text] Mario Sosa Navarro, member of the Honduran Communist Party's [PCH] Executive Committee Secretariat and Political Committee, feels that the electoral and political organizations law which became effective on 1 January this year "contains far too many regulations whose purpose is to limit citizens' rights."

He revealed that the PCH has undertaken a series of studies on the political and legal aspects of the law so that it can make a well-informed judgment of the matter. The party will issue a statement at the proper time.

As an example of the limitations on citizens' rights made by the new electoral law, Sosa Navarro cited Article 15 "which, aside from the fact that it has no scientific value, is copied from the laws imposed upon our countries by U.S. imperialism during the period of its most rabid anticommunism."

The article to which Sosa Navarro referred says textually: "No political parties based on race, sex or class can be formed. The formation, registration and operation of political parties which support or practice doctrines contrary to the Honduran people's democratic spirit or which act in accordance or in compliance with an international or foreign organization whose ideological programs are a threat to the sovereignty of the state will not be permitted. Not included in this prohibition are the organizations which advocate a Central American union or the Pan-American doctrines or of continental solidarity."

Sosa Navarro asserted: "The fact of the matter is that the law seeks only to sideline us because our party is already a political, permanent and stable reality and because, historically, we are now and will be the only alternative, together with other similar forces, capable of overcoming our material backwardness and attaining--as sectors of the armed forces have said--the modernization of Honduras at a time during which humanity is moving from capitalism to socialism."

Asked if he believed that a democratic regime is perfect if the working class is not free to have its own legal party, Sosa Navarro said that "at this time the thermometer that determines the degree of democratization in a regime is the recognition of the rights of the working class, among which is that of having its own party, with its scientific doctrine of Marxism-Leninism.

"In this sense, the government of the Dominican Republic [as published], without developmental pretensions or democratizing poses, has legally recognized the communists' right to exist as a party."

The exclusion of the revolutionary party from the electoral organizations is considered by the PCH leader as an infringement upon citizens' rights.

In connection with the possibility that teachers will group together to nominate an independent slate, as was announced by Jose Maria Ramirez, the former president of the Professional Association of High School Teachers of Honduras, Sosa Navarro said he believed that it is not a good idea for unions or professional organizations to lose sight of their own objectives by undertaking political and electoral activities which have the potential to cause divisions.

Mario Sosa Navarro did not agree with having the Constituent Assembly elect the futur president.

"On this subject, we can state that the PCH is in favor of the direct electi ne supreme authorities of the nation. The situation which led Villeda Morales a neral Lopez Arellano to power has shown how wrong that was and although this has not een the cause of the country's constitutional instability of the past 15 years, it has been a contributing factor," he said.

Some persons feel that the appointement of Virgilio R. Galvez as representative of the Supreme Court of Justice originated in the chief of state's office. On this, Sosa Navarro says:

"Every appointment by the state has a specific political purpose. Aside from the honesty and personal qualities of Virgilio R. Galvez, he will undoubtedly not be able to remain uninvolved in the Honduran political struggle because of his background and known sympathies.

"Undoubtedly, however, if a conflict arises in the electoral organization the representative of the state will side with the current dominant sector in Honduran politics, that is, with the development-oriented and dependent bourgeoisie, even if this makes it necessary to remove the representative of the Supreme Court," he concluded.

NICARAGUA

CHAMORRO'S WILL REJECTS CHARGE OF 'TREASON'

PA171454Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1856 GMT 16 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 15 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--In his last will and testament, assassinated newsman Pedro Jaoquin Chamorro Cardenal stated that the worst offense to which he was subjected during his life was being accused by the government of "treason against the fatherland." The will was read today in Chamorro's residence by notary Rafael Cordova Rivas in the presence of Chamorro's family and newsmen.

Chamorro considered the charge of "treason" more cruel than the prisons, torture, confinements and exile to which he was subjected. He emphasized that his trial was "ignoble and motivated by revenge."

Before discussing strictly inheritance matters, Chamorro made certain comments and gave certain explanations with regard to events in which he was involved, emphasizing that "I have always loved and defended my country." Rejecting the charge of "treason," Chamorro said he did not defend himself during his military trial in 1956 because "this would have implied acceptance that such slanderous charges could be made against him."

The editor of LA PRENSA denied knowing who killed Gen Anastasio Somoza Garcia, father of President Anastasio Somoza Debayle. "Despite knowledge of my innocence in this case, government spokesmen tried to implicate me with false declarations made by persons under torture," the will added.

Chamorro explained that he made the foregoing statements in order that there would not be the slightest doubt about the truth and because he felt that his statements would contribute to the total clarification of a historic event that could be distorted in the eyes of future generations. He affirmed that he was not guilty of the crimes attributed to him, except for that of rebellion.

In addition, Chamorro explained in the will that, in his case, he did not consider rebellion a crime because "it has come to represent the exercise of a right to end the social, political and economic injustice practiced by a government under which I have lived the greater part of my life."

In death, Chamorro pardoned all those who did him any harm during his lifetime and said he felt rancor toward none. As a newsman, he felt that his writings and harsh criticism of certain persons had no other purpose than to "judge them publicly in order to change evil systems and methods; not for any personal interest." In his will, Chamorro said that he wrote always believing what he said to be true, "particularly in basic matters in which he reported events which compromised the integrity and dignity of individuals."

In another portion of the will, dated 30 May 1972, Chamorro Cardenal--whose murder has not been resolved, as far as identifying the planners is concerned--refers to family matters and the distribution of his assets, which were not listed.

The voice of lawyer Cordova Rivas broke several times while he was reading the document to Chamorro Cardenal's widow, four children and siblings.

BISHOPS DEPLORE NEWSMAN'S ASSASSINATION

PA132014Y Managua Radio ABC in Spanish 1730 GMT 12 Jan 78 PA

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Communique issued by Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference on 10 January 1978 in Managua--read by Radio ABC announcer]

[Text] We, the Catholic bishops of Nicaragua, aware of the serious situation faced by the nation, deeply regret the treacherous assassination of Dr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal and are praying for him before God.

We also wish to convey our pastoral message to everyone concerning this tragic death. Have trust in God for he will help you. Rely on him and he will remove all obstacles for you.

To the national journalistic profession which has lost one of its most illustrious exponents; to the political organizations which have been deprived of a leader in the just battles for democracy and freedom; to the conscientious citizenry which does not know what position to adopt in view of this irrational and hate-laden action; to the authorities charged with solving and punishing this attempt against personal life and civic peace; leniency in this case would open a painful path of uncontrollable violence.

[words indistinct] who, through arms and bloodshed, are looking for a solution to problems which can only be solved within an atmosphere of justice and national harmony. One fights ideas with ideas and injustices are solved only through dutiful compliance with justice.

Our message is a cry of anguish to all men of good will in this country over and above creeds and parties. It is time to reflect deeply as responsible citizens. The respect for human life [words indistinct] gamut of all of its inalienable rights is peace. We must make it possible in our fatherland by rising above personal or party interests before it is too late. Let the valuable life of one of its children be the last sacrifice before we arrive at authentic reconciliation.

As Christians, we offer our faith and hope to those who are mourning for him. The life of those who believe in you, oh Lord, does not end; it becomes transformed. When we depart this terrestrial dwelling, we acquire an eternal mansion in Heaven. None of us lives for himself and no one dies for himself either. Let this spilled blood, and that of so many other Nicaraguans who have remained anonymous, serve at least to establish in our dear fatherland the kingdom of truth, life, justice, love and peace.

Managua, 10 January, the year of our lord 1978.

[signed] The Episcopal Conference: Monsignor Manuel Salazar Espinosa, bishop of Leon, president; Monsignor Clemente Carranza Lopez, bishop of Esteli, secretary.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR'S APPOINTEMENT ACCEPTED--Foreign Ministry sources have reported that Rafael Espinola's appointment as Guatemalan ambassador to Nicaragua has been accepted. Prof Enrique Pellecer Lopez, the former Guatemalan ambassador to Nicaragua, has been appointed to Honduras. [Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 1720 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA] [SERCANO Network]

FRENCH, UK DAILIES CITED ON HORN OF AFRICA SITUATION

PA171639Y Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Text] The French newspaper LE MATIN of Paris charged on Monday that the United States and Saudi Arabia are supplying war equipment to the Somali army units that are carrying out a war of aggression against Ethiopia.

For its part, the British newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH charged on Monday that the current Peking leadership is helping reinforce Somalia militarily, a fact which, it adds, worsens the existing conflict in the so-called Horn of Africa.

Meanwhile, Berhanu Baye, member of the Standing Committee of the Provisional Ethiopian Administrative Military Council, has said in Addis Ababa that his country does not plan to attack any other state, noting that the war it is waging against Somalia is defensive in nature.

COMMENTARY DISCUSSES CHAMORRO DEATH, SITUATION IN NICARAGUA

FL171811Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 12 Jan 78 FL

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] The shooting of Pedro Chamorro, which occurred yesterday in one of Managua's streets, the capital of Nicaragua, is an incident that considerably aggravates the political crisis existing in that Central American country. Chamorro, director of the most important Nicaraguan daily, LA PRENSA, and a traditional member of the opposition to the Somoza regime, was considered to be a possible transitory solution in the country.

Let us review some events prior to the incident. The lifelong dynasty of the Somozas emerged in Nicaragua in 1934 when a coffee landowner, Antonio Somoza, promoted the murder of Cesar Augusto Sandino in open complicity with troops of Yankee marines that invaded that country. Over more than 40 years, the Somoza family has succeeded itself heading dictatorial regimes which have governed through a state of siege, the strictest censorship, the prohibition of all political and trade union activities and the most brutal repression against the people.

Despite all this, the U.S. Government has been giving economic and military aid to the regime, contributing in this manner to its perpetuity. Last July, Anastasio Somoza Debayle, the current member of the dynasty in power, suffered a serious heart attack and was urgently taken to the United States. In his own Nationalist Liberal Party, ambitions aimed at replacing him in power were widespread. The figure of Cornelio Hueck, the president of the party and chief of the party's parliamentary majority, immediately emerged as the candidate who had the best possibilities. Hueck rapidly established contact with the North American Embassy to gain Yankee support.

But, Somoza, from the U.S, hospital bed where he was, designated as successor his brother-in-law, Guillermo Sevilla-Sacasa, the present Nicaraguan ambassador to Washington, and dismissed Hueck from his party post and parliamentary leadership. Two months later, in October last, the Sandinist National Liberation Front unleashed a strong military offensive in the country. The San Carlos National Guard garrison, some 20 kms from the Costa Rican border, was attacked.

Armed actions also took place in the region of Ocotal on the border with Honduras, in Masaya, the country's third largest city, and even in the capital of Managua. The Sandinist offensive provoked a broad popular support as well as pronouncements of diverse social and intellectual sectors. Priests and businessmen signed a proclamation calling for a national dialog to seek a democratic opening and an end of the Somoza dictatorship.

The Democratic Liberation Union, in which PEDRO Chamorro was a prominent figure, pronounced itself favorable to the dialog and stated that it should be based on respect for human rights, derogation of censorship, political liberalism, trade union freedom, a halt to administrative corruption and amnesty for political prisoners. In addition, it asked assurance that no Somoza would occupy a post in the future government or in the National Guard. The Sandinist National Liberation Front expressed opposition to a dialog with the dictatorship and proposed the creation of a democratic and popular government with the participation of workers and peasants as well as the more representative sectors of the country.

Somoza accepted the dialog and proposed to begin it in February of this year after the municipal elections he has convoked. The Democratic Liberation Union has denounced that the elections are a mockery and that the regime has fraudulently registered more than 200,000 alleged voters to guarantee the Somoza triumph. It is in the midst of this situation that Chamorro's death occurs.

To whom can the death of Chamorro be of interest? Somoza had selected Sevilla-Sacasa as his replacement in a manuver that would guarantee Somozism without Somoza through an ornamental figure. Bourgeois sectors of the native oligarchy and church leaders agree in finding a democratic-bourgeois solution and in putting an end to Somozism in the country. This democratic-bourgeois solution would apparently be convenient to the United States, which realizes that its protege of so many years has entered a crisis and cannot survive much longer. If Chamorro could have been a transitional candidate for that democratic-bourgeois government, which would have replaced the Somoza dictatorship, the imperialists have docile candidates to spare, such as Cornelio Hueck himself, to put him at the head of a government with more similar characteristics to the reformist postulates backed up by Washington.

It is too early to reach conclusion in this respect. Those questions remain unanswered and it is also clear that Chamorro's death makes the Nicaraguan crisis more profound.

PORTUGAL'S MELO ANTUNES VISITS SCHOOL, MEETS OFFICIALS

FL180045Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0037 GMT 18 Jan FL

[Text] Maj Ernesto Melo Antunes, member of the Portuguese Council of the Revolution and chairman of the Constitutional Committee, this afternoon visited the Vladimir Llich Lenin Vocational School in Havana. On arrival at the school, the delegation was received by school deputy director General Luis Cuzman de Armas who showed the visitors a mockup of the school and explained the study system and various activities in which the students are involved.

The delegation this morning visited the Pablo Noriega Sugar Mill in Quivican Municipality, Havana Province. Major Melo Antunes and his entourage toured the mill's installations, the works of the Cuba 9 and Cuba 10 projects and the plants for the production of paper, bagasse, (alcohol) [words indistinct]

Meets Lezcano, Agriculture Minister

FL171924Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Maj Ernesto Melo Antunes, member of the Portuguese Council of the Revolution and chairman of the Constitutional Committee, has met with Jorge Lezcano Perez, member of the PCC Central Committee and national coordinator of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution--CDR. Felipe Velasco and David Duran, executive secretary and section chief, respectively, of the CDR Foreign Relations Secretariat, were present at the meeting.

Maj Ernesto Melo Antunes had met earlier with Rafael Francia Mestre, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of agriculture.

SRV AMBASSADOR HOLDS CONFERENCE ON BORDER CONFLICT

FL171855Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Socialist Republic of Vietnam Ambassador to Cuba Ha Van Lau has held a press conference during which he summarized the status of the border conflict between Vietnam and Cambodia and emphasized the just position of the Vietnamese Government in that regard.

He pointed out that it is regrettable that since 1975 Cambodia has been carrying out actions against the Vietnamese poeple by invading the Vietnamese islands of Phu Quoc and (?Tho Chau), violating the territory of Vietnam and perpetrating highly savage crimes. He added that Canadian press and radio constantly disseminate information which insinuate alleged acts of aggression, intervention and subversion by Vietnam against Cambodia in order to incite the Cambodian people's and army's hatred for the Vietnamese people.

Ha Van Lau noted that Cambodia has rejected Vietnamese proposals for negotiations and that the the Vietnamese people and armed forces have been forced to resort to self-defense actions (?and) bloodshed which has been totally caused by Cambodia. Lastly, on behalf of the Vietnamese party, government and people, he expressed gratitude for Cuba's solidarity in having acted actively and quickly in favor of a prompt solution of the Vietnam-Cambodia border conflict through negotiations.

FANNY EDELMANN DEDICATES REGIONAL WIDF CENTER

FL171840Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL

[Text] A regional center of the Women's International Democratic Federation [WIDF] was dedicated yesterday in our capital. WIDF Secretary General Fanny Edelmann presided over the ceremony which was attended by Federation of Cuban Women [FMC] President Vilma Espin and other leaders.

In speaking at the ceremony, Fanny Edelmann emphasized the importance of the center in which area women's leaders will be trained. We have given life, she said, to a very old and great aspiration. She also underscored the assistance given by the Cuban Government and the FMC to WIDF tasks.

IUS SECRETARY GENERAL ARRIVES IN HAVANA

FL171545Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1210 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Fathi al Fadl, Secretary general of the International Union of Students [IUS], arrived in Havana last night on a work visit in connection with the 11th [World Youth and Students] Festival. In welcoming the distinguished visitor, Luis Felipe Vazquez, member of the Union of Young Communists [UJC] national committee and Cuban representative before the CIP [Festival International Preparatory Committee], said Fathi al Fadl's visit will directly contribute to the preparations for the grand event of the world youth and students.

Present at the Jose Marti International Airport to welcome the IUS secretary general were (Allain Gresh), organizing secretary of the 11th festival, Fernando Ramirez, secretary for foreign relations of the Federation of University Students [FEU], and other CIP representatives. Together with the IUS secretary general, the representatives of Cuba, Czechoslovakia and Puerto Rico to the IUS also arrived in our country.

In response to the welcome accorded him by the FEU, UJC and the CIP Permament Commission, Fathi al Fadl stated he was happy to be in the host nation of the 11th festival at a decisive time for the success of this event. The UIS secretary general said he is bringing with him a number of initiatives which will contribute to the success of the 11th festival. Likewise, he said he is ready to discuss with the CIP the contribution of the IUS to the festival, which at this time is of great importance. He also stated he was pleased with the ongoing work of the CIP and the Cuban organizing committee and reported that during his stay he will hold important meetings with the UJC, FEU and the Continental Organization of Latin American Students.

YOUTH FESTIVAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE TO MEET IN BERLIN

FL180017Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jan 78 FL

[Excerpt] The Permament Commission of the International Preparatory Committee--CIP--for the 11th World Youth and Student Festival has held its eighth work meeting during which it was decided to hold the fourth CIP meeting in Berlin, capital of the GDR, on 2 and 3 March. The resolution adopted by the international organization points out that the Berlin meeting has been scheduled in consideration of the current status of international preparatory work and the development which the Cuban preparatory committee has achieved in its work.

FORESTRY WORKERS CONGRESS OPENS IN BARACOA

FL171605Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1502 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL

[Text] The 2d Congress of the Forestry Workers National Trade Union, the 16th held to date by the labor movement, has begun at Paso de Cuba, 12 kms from Baracoa, Guantanamo Province. The important meeting is being held in a modern experimental station which was officially inaugurated on 17 June 1976 by Juan Almeida Bosque, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Council of State, as part of the area's forestry development plans.

Reinaldo Saldana, president of the congress' national organizing committee, said in a press conference that the planting of 70 million timber trees is the product of the great forestry awareness of Baracoa's residents. During the first years of the revolution and until 1965 or 1966, he pointed out, this region planted 40 percent of what today is planted as initial planting, and added that today nearly 11 million trees are planted every year.

Saldana Reads Report

FL172307Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1902 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL

[Text] Reinaldo Saldana, president of the Forestry Worker Congress National Organizing Committee, has read this organization's central report of the second congress which will be meeting all day today in Baracoa. The congress is meeting at the Baracoa experimental station in Paso de Cuba. A total of 140 delegates are attending, representing 21,000 workers in this sector. In his report, Saldana has said that the event is being held in Baracoa Municipality, Guantanamo Province, because it is the most representative region in the nation for its extensive forests and its importance in the nation's forest economy. He said that it is our proposal that this report has reviewed all the work deficiencies and achievements during the period being analyzed, with the idea of having critical discussions to arrive at solutions.

In his report to the forestry plenum, Reinaldo Saldana stated that socialist emulation is the vehicle by which an increase in production, better productivity and desired quality are obtained. He also said that the trade union should strengthen the vanguard movement incorporating into it a larger number of workers willing to overcome the difficulties, achieve and surpass their quotas with greater savings and quality. Saldana pointed out that the foresters should carry out their work by saving natural resources, fuels, lowering the costs of production and all else that will help us achieve greater economic efficiency in the sector. In another area, he pointed out the need to deepen and strengthen the innovator and rationalizer movement in accordance with the guidelines and documents available to the trade union sector.

At the Forestry Workers Congress in Baracoa, Reinaldo Saldana said that education is one of the most important tasks of the state and the trade union movement as a whole. He added that based on the principles expounded, the Forestry Workers Trade Union should develop a meaningful and systematic policy in an attempt to have all workers of this sector reach the sixth-grade level before 1980. Saldana pointed out that the most advanced cultural and technical activities in forestry should be continually supported in this same way. He then added that the trade union should inculcate in the workers and managers minds that the education battle is everyone's task, and that this should be carried out with enthusiasm and firmness because of its importance.

In his report to the forestry second congress plenum, Reinaldo Saldana stated that the trade union has increased its work to improve working conditions, to reduce accidents and work-related illnesses. We have to be more exacting, he added, to comply with the established rules on qualification and training of workers, in accordance with the instructions on safety and health. In the case of fire prevention, he said that in the past year 481 brigades were formed, of which 444 have been trained. What we should direct is that we conclude this task until we reach 100 percent. Saldana pointed out that for an efficient means of preventing and combating sickness, the forestry workers should have periodic medical examinations.

Reinaldo Saldana stated that the Forestry Workers Trade Union presently has 2,235 women members. This figure has been constant throughout the sector's history, since there have not been appreciable changes. The unselfish attitude of the women forestry workers has always been put in perspective by recounting the great works done on plantations and in other areas. On many occasions it has required them to leave their homes for many days or prolong their work schedule.

The central organization of Cuban workers leader pointed out that women forestry workers have played, and are playing, such a role that they have substituted for men more than a few times, carrying out in this fashion a noticeable part in completing the production plans.

The central report concludes with the trade union delegation recognizing the forestry comrades' unselfishness and enthusiasm for their work.

MEETING OF MARXISM-LENINISM PROFESSORS OPENS

FL172051Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2032 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL

[Text] We cannot consider our educational work completed until the communist ideas, moral standards and attitude have become personal convictions of the students. Fernando Vecino Alegret, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of higher education, made this statement today.

Vecino Alegret read the main report at the first national meeting of higher education professors of Marxism-Leninism which opened this morning at the Anibal Ponce Theater at Havana University. About 300 persons, including Marxism-Leninism professors, are attending the meeting in representation of all the country's higher education schools, PCC school system and Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) schools and academies.

The morning session also was chaired by Jose Felipe Carneado, member of the PCC Central Committee and chief of the Central Committee's Department of Science, Culture and Education; and Antonio Diaz, chief of the Central Committee's Department of Internal Education.

First Vice Minister [presumably of higher education] Benito Perez Masa made the opening remarks at the meeting of higher education professors of Marxism-Leninism. Fernando Vecino Alegret then read the main report on the role of generalization of study of Marxism-Leninism in the development of high-level specialists. He emphasized that every specialist in any area of social work must be a conscientious builder of socialism.

Among the tasks undertaken in the 1976-77 school year to fulfill resolutions of the first party congress, Vecino Alegret mentioned the creation of philosophy and history schools in the Universities of Havana and Oriente. He reported that during this same period more than 15,900 first-year students took philosophy classes and 500 others took political economics classes.

BRIEFS

IL-62 FOR CUBANA--It has been reported in Moscow that the Soviet Enterprise (Aviaexport) today delivered at (Donodiegodov) an IL-62 plane to the Cubana de Aviacion Company. This type of plane has been used for several years on the transatlantic route between Moscow and Havana. [Text] [Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jan 78 FL].

MATANZAS HARVEST MEETING--PCC Central Committee members Julian Rizo, first secretary of the party in Matanzas Province, and Jose Ramirez Cruz, president of the National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP], have chaired the first checkup meeting of Matanzas' provincial harvest emulation of the peasant organization. The event was held at the quarters of the Augusto Olivares Brigade, the first peasant group to cut one million arrobas of cane in Matanzas Province and the second in the country. In his closing remarks, Jose Ramirez Cruz congratulated Felipe Matias and Luis Garcia, ANAP's most outstanding canecutters in Matanzas, and urged the province's peasantry to make greater efforts so that Matanzas may attain the goals pledged for the current harvest. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL]

SUGAR HARVEST NEWS--Of the country's 148 sugar mills scheduled to go into operation in the current harvest, 139 were active today, Saturday. Only nine sugar mills have not yet started grinding. Nine provinces have all their sugar mills already grinding in the 1978 harvest. First reports of sugar cane yields are higher than those of the last harvest. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Jan 78 FL] Heavy rains have seriously affected the progress of the 1978 sugar harvest. The state of national grinding operations has been affected by the canecutting hours lost due to the rains. Until 15 January, the country was reporting a 37 percent of the potential norm. Now, the weather conditions have aggravated the delay by 6.37 percent due to the irregular supplies of raw materials to the mills and 6.72 percent due to repairs and interruptions in operations. Measures have been adopted to offset the climatic conditions. Cienfuegos and Matanzas are heading the fulfillment of the potential norm with 85 percent and Havana with 82 percent. The present reality makes it an imperative that, as soon as the rains stop, the men doing the cutting, lifting and hauling of the sugar cane must increase the daily deliveries to bring the mills back to the maximum of capacity. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 17 Jan 78 FL]

BARBADOS

ADAMS MEETS WITH UK'S ROWLANDS

PA1721O1Y Paris AFP in English 2035 GMT 17 Jan 78 PA

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Jan 17 (AFP)--British Deputy Foreign Minister Ted Rowlands had talks with Barbados Premier Tom Adams here today on the problem of Belize, Britain's 86-square-mile Central American colony which wants independence but is claimed by Guatemala. Barbados was one of seven Caribbean countries which last month backed rapid and "secure independence" for Belize on the basis of territorial integrity.

Guatemala has threatened to invade and occupy all of Belize if it is given independence with [as received] a prior settlement, and there have been unconfirmed reports of pressure on Belize Premier George Price to surrender part of his territory to get it.

Mr Rowlands, minister of state at the British foreign and commonwealth office, arrived here last night, and will also discuss Belize in Jamaica with Premier Michael Manley.

Barbados, Jamaica, Guyana and Trinidad have urged Belize not to surrender any territory as a condition of securing independence. According to the unconfirmed reports pressure on Mr Price was from unnamed developed countries. Mr Rowlands' arrival here followed talks on Belize independence between Barbados External Affairs Minister and Attorney General Henry Forde and Belize Attorney General Assad Shoman.

DEFENSE FORCE TO FUNCTION BY APRIL

FL171450Y Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 13 Jan 78 p 2 FL

[Text] Bridgetown, 12 Jan: Barbados planned defence force starts functioning next April, with first year operational costs estimated at $2.4 million, according to a government white paper released here.

The role, function, composition and cost of the force are spelt out in the 21-page document laid in the House of Assembly Tuesday by Deputy Prime Minister Bernard St. John.

Initially the established force will comprise 154 regulars drawn from the now largely volunteer Barbados Regiment, the four-year-old Coast Guard service and 302 volunteers all headed by a colonel.

Over the next three years it will expand to an overall total of 786. Provision is also made for volunteer reserve.

The force will have naval facilities, namely the four patrol vessels of the Coast Guard, and an air wing--volunteers flying privately-owned aircraft "under suitable financial arrangements."

Plans for the defence force were announced last November in a throne speech read by Britain's Queen Elizabeth.

Barbados will be among the last of the independent commonwealth countries to have a full time army.

Among the roles set out for the defence force are assisting in meeting threats to national security, helping to maintain law and order, providing law endorcement to sea, surveillance of the island's coastal and territorial waters as well as economic zone," air sea search and rescue operations, fisheries protection and help with the maintenance of essential services. (CANA)

DOMINICA

POLITICAL ACTIVIST NOTES NEED FOR CLOSER TIES WITH CUBA

FL141910Y Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Jan 78 p 8 FL

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, 10 Jan (CANA)--Dominica should forge closer links with Cuba, after independence political activist Rosie Douglas has advocated here.

In a CANA interview yesterday Douglas said Dominica stood to benefit both technically and economically by forging closer ties with that communist Caribbean state.

He dispelled any beliefs that once Dominica had established closer links with Cuba it would have to adopt the policy of the Cuban Government.

"The Cuban Government has made their position clear irrespective of whatever social system that a particular government assumes, as long as that government is a democratic government and as long as that government respect human rights like the Cuban Government does," Douglas said.

He went on: "If the Americans can forge links with Cuba why should we (Dominica), an under-developed country still suffering from the effects of 400 years of colonialism, neglect Cuba?

"Although we are not yet independent the average home in Dominica can benefit from cheaper cement from Cuba for instance."

The political activist, a vigorous campaigner for Dominica's political independence from Britain, however noted that "all developments with Cuba would have to depend a lot on the Dominica Government."

"At present the Dominica Government is locked in a battle with the British Government over when we will get our independence," Douglas observed.

"So it would be unwise really for the Government of Dominica to make moves quickly in regard to building relations with socialist countries. The British have always prevented their colonies from doing so," he added.

JAMAICA

NEW AGREEMENT WITH IMF NEGOTIATED

FL162020Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 14 Jan 78 pp 1, 15 FL

[Text] Jamaica is negotiating a new agreement with the International Monetary Fund for assistance, to replace the one which was entered into last July.

This new agreement is being sought because under the terms of the former one Jamaica became ineligible to borrow from the I.M.F., due to its failure to meet one of the terms of the agreement.

Mr David Coore, the minister of finance, made this disclosure last night in a broadcast to the nation, in which he announced the latest devaluation of the Jamaican dollar--a pre-requisite to the new agreement.

Last week, GLEANER columnist Wilmot Perkins made the statement that the arrangement with the I.M.F. had broken down because of Jamaica's failure to meet one of the conditions. Official reaction was that the minister of finance would deal with this at the proper time.

Giving the background to the new financial developments now taking place, Mr Coore said in his broadcast last night:

"In July last year, the Government of Jamaica negotiated an agreement with the International Monetary Fund under which we were eligible to borrow approximately $74 million (U.S.) from the institution over a period of two years in specified amounts at specified periods.

"Our first drawing of $22 million (U.S.) under this agreement was made on the 10th October. Second drawing of $11 million was due to be made on or about the 15th December.

"In order to make this second drawing however, we had to satisfy the IMF that certain agreed economic policies had been implemented and that the economy had responded by achieving certain agreed performance targets by certain dates.

"These targets related to public expenditure, public borrowing from the banking system, foreign exchange holdings and the net domestic assets of the Bank of Jamaica.

"We did institute the agreed policies and we made every possible effort to ensure that the agreed performance targets were met on the due dates.

"Unfortunately we did not quite succeed. We achieved most of the targets but failed to achieve one--the domestic assets test, and even here we only failed $9.1 million or 2.6 per cent over the target.

"Nevertheless, under the terms of the agreement with the I.M.F. we automatically became ineligible to meet any more drawings unless and until we re-negotiate our arrangements with the I.M.F.

"We have started preliminary discussions with the IMF to this end and in fact I have just yesterday returned from Washington where I had meetings with the managing director of the fund, the deputy managing director and other officials.

"At the end of this month an IMF team will be coming to Jamaica to continue these discussions with a view to arriving at a 3-year agreement to replace the existing one.

"In the meantime however, it is necessary for us to make certain changes in our exchange rate. This is a prerequisite for any successful negotiations with the fund."

Mr Coore then announced the changes which have been approved by the cabinet and became effective immediately.

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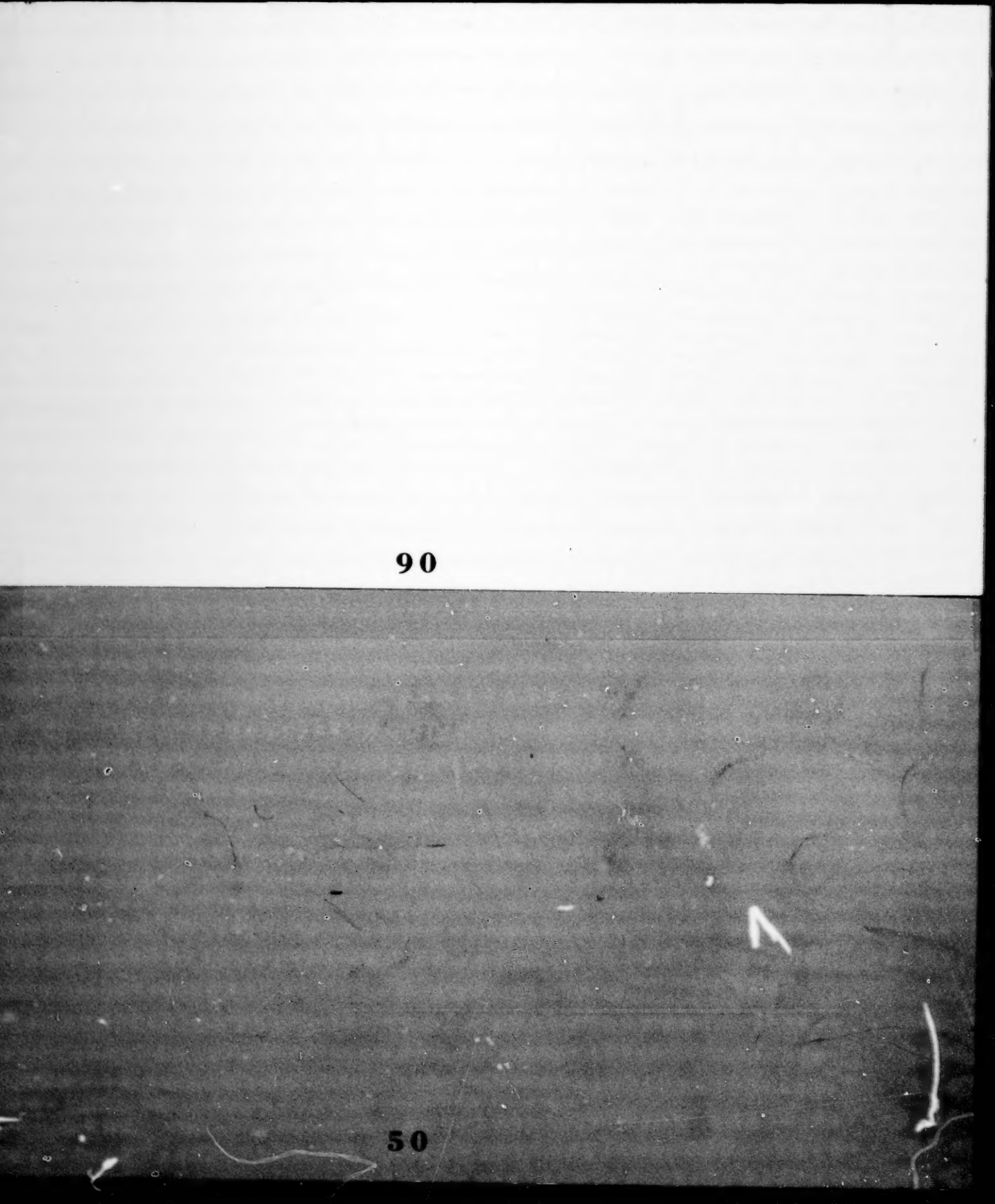
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